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Faculty votes 97-70 to save J-Term

Modified proposal to challenge status quo at next meeting

By Caroline Stauffer
News Editor

J-Term was spared in a surprise vote at Monday's faculty meeting. By a 97-70 margin with one abstention, the faculty voted for the modified J-Term proposal, rejecting the alternative proposal for a two-semester calendar.

Secretary of the College Eric Davis described the result as "very decisive." "It will be several student generations before the issue of Winter Term comes up before the faculty again," he said.

The fact that the vote took place during Monday's meeting, however, was unanticipated.

After hearing division reports from Professor of Russian Kevin Moss and Associate Professor of Geology Pat Manley, Davis made a procedural motion to suspend the rules in order to simultaneously consider proposals to modify J-Term or to eliminate it, instead of debating and voting on each proposal separately as parliamentary procedure would require. The motion passed unanimously.

"What I expected to happen was that there would have been amendments offered to both proposals and the final vote would have taken place at the April meeting," said Davis.

Instead, the only amendment proposed was Charles A. Dana Professor of History of Art and Architecture Kirsten Hoving's move to vote by electronic ballot instead of paper ballot in order to ensure full faculty participation. Some members expressed a concern about being unable to attend the Friday, April 2 meeting and therefore not being able to vote, but the motion failed.

Professor of Chemistry and

See Surprise vote, page 6

Albert Bitici

Professor of Russian Kevin Moss, left, reports varying opinions of the non-science division meeting to a large audience at Monday's faculty meeting. President John McCardell, right, announces the verdict on J-Term after the meeting's surprise vote.

College to decide fate of PIN bill

By Chesley Thurber
Associate Editor

By March 16 the President's Executive Committee will decide on a plan to replace the current PIN bill system. Director of Business Services Thomas Corbin announced to the Student Government Association (SGA) Sunday night that the Committee will decide either to install a debit function on the magnetic stripe of students' current College identification cards or to enable College facilities to accept public credit and debit cards.

The choice comes as the result of a College decision to eliminate the PIN bill due to the increasing expenses of providing credit to students and the logistical hassles of collecting late payments.

The first plan is similar in functionality to the PIN bill, but will require students to pay first and then subtract charges from their accounts, similar to a debit card from any public bank. The College has already decided on a firm to provide the structure and interface for the system should this proposal be adopted. The firm, which Corbin declined to name, was selected for its system's ability to monitor printer and photocopier use as well as a web interface that would allow students to check their account status. Additionally, the College is looking into making agreements with town retailers to accept the debit card as well as with the National Bank of Middlebury to allow students to withdraw cash from their debit accounts.

The biggest impediment to such a plan is the cost. According to Corbin, a College-run debit system would cost $250,000 to install and $100,000 a year to operate. "I wouldn't be doing my job as a steward of the College budget to spend $100,000 a year over the next five

See Middcard, page 5

Davis to leave Old Chapel

By Claire M. L. Bourne
Managing Editor

Secretary of the College Eric Davis will relinquish his administrative duties at the end of the 2004-2005 academic year and return to the Political Science Department as a full-time faculty member the following fall, President John McCardell announced in an all-community e-mail Monday afternoon.

Davis, who has served as an administrator for more than half of his 24 years at Middlebury College, becomes the fourth high-level officer to announce his departure from Old Chapel this year. McCardell, Vice President for College Advancement Sally Holland and Director of Business Services Thomas Corbin will all vacate their positions at the end of this semester.

See Davis, page 2

HOCKEY HERO

Vlad Lodoaba

Departing Kenyon arena, Kevin Cooper '04 walks past a group of young fans after a triumphant victory over Hamilton College Saturday afternoon. The team continued with a win over Trinity on Sunday to clinch the NESCAC Championships and is headed to the NCAAs.

MIDDBRIEFS

BY VIRGINIA HARPER, MEREDITH KERNAN

Webmail crashes

Photo illustration / Albert Bitici

A series of Webmail failures this past weekend left many students frustrated and unable to access their e-mail accounts.

Thomas Cutter, director of systems and network services, said that several Library and Information Services staff members worked throughout the weekend to fix the problem. While the cause is officially undetermined, it is assumed that machines infected by new worms and viruses were overwhelming the server with traffic from within the firewall.

"We have made some configuration changes to hopefully alleviate this issue and will be contacting users whose machines appear to be infected," Cutter said Monday. Over the weekend, the Information Technology Services Helpdesk was overwhelmed by calls from students who were unable to access their accounts. For uninfected users, Webmail is once again fully functional, but Cutter emphasized the importance of maintaining up-to-date virus definitions in order to avoid similar problems in the future.

Dana scholars to receive grants

President John McCardell hosted the annual Dana Scholars dinner last Wednesday in the Redfield Proctor room, honoring 11 new scholars from the Class of 2006. This year's guest speaker at the event was Charles A. Dana III, who delivered an account of the life of his grandfather, Charles A. Dana.

The Charles A. Dana Scholarship program was founded in 1960 with a grant from Dana, who gave generously to the Methodist church, hospitals, and several colleges during his lifetime. Every year, a group of exceptional sophomores is chosen to receive financial grants from the Dana fund to support their college education. Special preference is given to those who show leadership ability. Middlebury College is one of 15 schools that benefits from this program

This years scholars were Iskandar Aminov, Jonathan Ellis, Brooke Gardner, Megan Guffin, Luke Hammock, Kirsten Lundgren, William Motley, Stella Nordhagen, David Restrepo, Elizabeth Schaumberg, and Pauley Tedoff.

Three candidates unveiled

By Ben Salkowe
Staff Writer

Two weeks after Spring Break, Middlebury College students will cast their votes for the next president of the Student Government Association (SGA) and student co-chair of the Community Council (SCCOCC). Looking toward intense campaigning after Spring Break, three known candidates are already preparing to dive in — Andrew Jacobi '05 and Jimmy Hickey '05 running for SGA president and Mike Vilarello '05.5 running for SCCOCC.

The central issues in this year's campaign remain somewhat unclear. Vilarello believes the commons system needs to be strengthened, and Jacobi cited addressing off-campus parties as a significant priority. Hickey added that the revised J-Term debate, the relationship between the students and the Educational Affairs Committee and the students' opinion of the SGA are all important issues.

If elected, Vilarello said he would work to further integrate the SGA and the commons system. "The commons system is here to stay, and there's nothing we can do about it," he said, " but we have the power to make it work best for us." Vilarello suggests that by increasing the links between the SGA and commons system, both can be more productive and a greater resource for students.

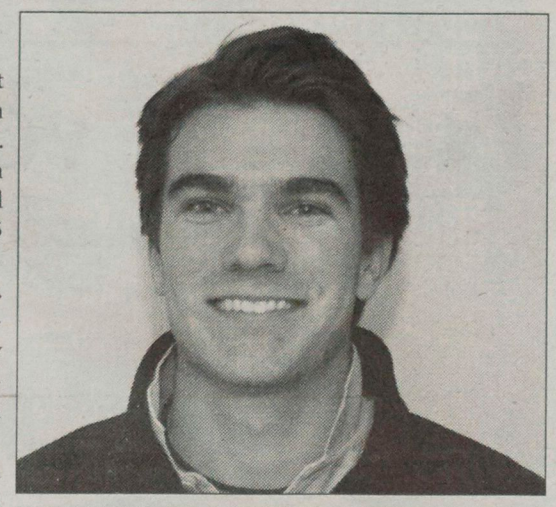
Jacobi, a member of Alpha Delta Phi, said he felt that the issue of off-campus parties was becoming "very dangerous" and would need to be discussed. "Even though I run the risk of looking like I am just plugging the social houses because I belong to one, I whole-heartedly believe that social houses throw the largest, safest and most widely attended parties on campus," he said, "and that is why the College must continue to support the social houses, both monetarily if need be, and by dealing with individual problems the houses may face rather than instituting crippling punishments."

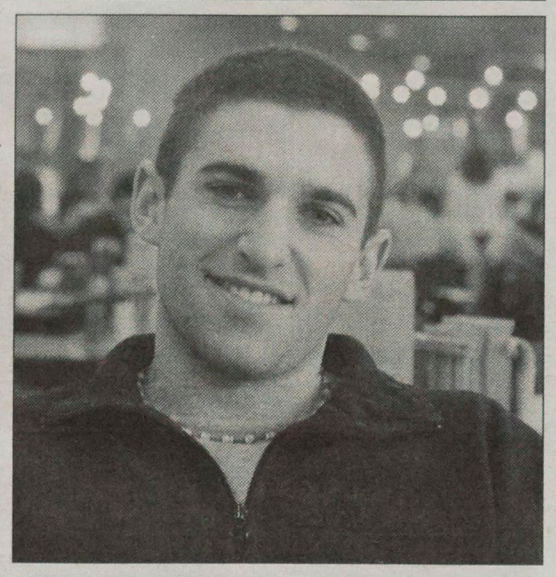
Jacobi, campaigning for Rodriguez's position, is an SGA outsider with a slew of original ideas. His proposals range from amending the PE requirement to accept community service, to developing a student-run "drunk-taxi" service, to creating opportunities for majors to shape the course offerings of their respective departments. Jacobi claims to have read the minutes of every SGA meeting that he has not attended and has read every issue of this year's *Middlebury Campus* cover-to-cover.

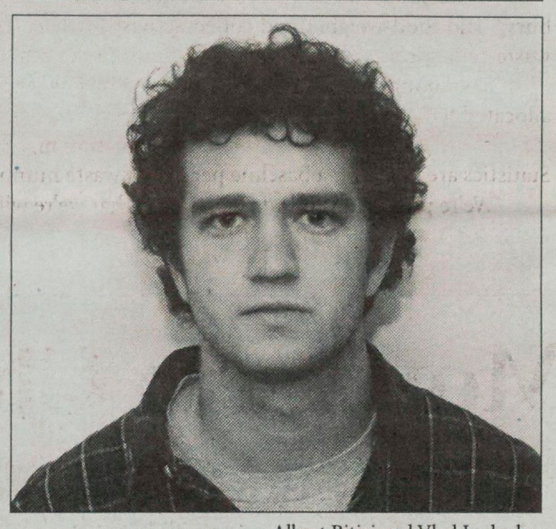
And Vilarello, hoping to follow Erin Sullivan '04 as SCCOCC, has, like the current SCCOCC, been a member of the SGA since his freshman year. He was press secretary on the SGA President's Cabinet his freshman year, student liason to Public Safety last year — another Cabinet position — and finally SGA's Inter-House Council senator and speaker of the Senate this year.

Hickey believes his leadership in the SGA and other campus organizations is a significant attribute. "Because of my experience, I have a well-founded and informed understanding of not only what needs to be done but of what can be done, practically speaking, on this campus," Hickey said. "It has been my impression as a student over the past three years that many of my fellow students feel that they [do not] have any actual say in the changes that occur at Middlebury — changes which affect their lives in a very real way. I am running for SGA president because I want to change this feeling," he continued.

Jacobi said that the SGA, under his guidance, would pursue "real yet reasonable things [to be] accomplished as early as possible." Vilarello echoed this statement, asserting that candidates must "have a platform that they can accomplish," something he says "hasn't really existed" and accounts for why he says "there hasn't been that much implemented this year by the SGA."







Albert Bitici and Vlad Lodoaba

(Top and middle) Jimmy Hickey '05 and Andrew Jacobi '05 are running for SGA President. (Bottom) Mike Vilarello '05 has announced his candidacy for Co-Chair of Community Council.

CORRECTIONS

The Middlebury Campus reported last week that the Middlebury Mountain Club's budget was frozen in connection with facilities damage in Adirondack House. It has since come to light that only parts of the club's budget were restricted, not the entire account. The editorial contained the same incorrect information. *The Campus* regrets this error.

Davis to return to political science classroom

Continued from page 1

"For all of us, there are seasons in our lives and chapters in our careers," Davis said. "During the last few months, I've been thinking it's time to transition." McCardell said he and Davis had been discussing Davis' transition to the faculty "since I announced my decision to step down as president."

The 2004-2005 academic year will mark the beginning of Davis' move from Old Stone Row back to the classroom where he will teach three courses, including two senior seminars, as he slowly hands over his responsibilities.

In upping his political science course load from one to three next year, Davis will essentially be pinch-hitting for four faculty members who plan to go on scheduled leave for the year.

It is unclear who will execute Davis' administrative tasks once he leaves office. He said it is possible that the Secretary of the College position may not continue under the College's new president. "There hasn't always been a Secretary of the College. It depends on the president and how he likes to work," Davis is quoted as saying in the Winter 2004 issue of *Middlebury Magazine.*

Davis has agreed to continue in his current administrative capacity through next year to help the new president adjust to the office. He said he has developed an "institutional memory" during his 13 years as an administrator that could help the College's new chief transition.

Davis stressed that his decision is not directly linked to McCardell's planned departure. He explained, however, that the new president would most likely embark on "the biggest fundraising campaign in Middlebury College history" a few years after taking office. "I would not be here for that," said Davis, who, according to McCardell's e-mail, plans to retire "in not too many years." It would be more logical for the president to appoint his own person to help in this fundraising endeavor, Davis added.

"These kinds of changes are not unusual when a president steps down," McCardell said. "A new president should see these vacancies as a great opportunity to recast the administration."

With four top administrators leaving their posts in the next 18 months, the College will be entering what Davis terms "a period of change and renewal." He said he does not expect the institution's "major policies, objectives and goals" to alter much, despite a changing of the Old Chapel guard. Nonetheless, he highlighted the continued need "to make sure that administrative offices are open to student concerns."

Despite his solid administrative experience, Davis considers himself first and foremost a political scientist. "The thing I most enjoy doing is studying politics — reading about it, writing about it, thinking about it and teaching it," he explained. An intimate 12-student seminar last fall coupled with his recent contributions to media coverage of the Dean campaign prompted him to think about focusing solely on politics again. And with full-time teaching will also come more time to advise seniors on their thesis work, he said.

His transition will also coincide with elections in three major Western nations — the United States, Great Britain and Germany. Davis said he plans to turn research on upcoming election bids by the U.S. Democratic Party, Britain's Labour Party and Germany's Social Democratic Party into a book. Timing is everything, he pointed out. "Some say one of the things that influences my time here at Middlebury is the schedule of elections," he joked.

"[Davis] is a friend and colleague, and he understands that civic responsibility can call one from the faculty ranks to serve the institution, but that ultimately we return where we began, which is to the faculty," said McCardell, who plans to teach full time again following a year's leave.

WASTE PRODUCT

Vlad Lodoaba

The numerous volunteers of the Middlebury "Weigh Your Waste" campaign have a greater goal in mind than making students feel bad about throwing out uneaten Proctor meals.

"Toward the end of the fall semester, Alyssa Jumars '06 and I started brainstorming ideas about how we could bring Fair Trade Coffee to Middlebury," said food-weigher and coffee-activist Michael Ives '06.5. "We suggested to Matthew Biette, director of Dining Services, that we would start a waste-reduction campaign to free up funds in the dining budget with which to buy Fair Trade Coffee."

"Each pound of waste, we've been told by Dining Services, costs approximately $2 in prep and food costs. So if we can save that money, it can be allocated to buying all of our coffee Fair Trade," added Phil Aroneanu '06.5, another volunteer.

According to volunteers, on waste collection nights, waste is down 40 percent at Ross and 15 percent at Proctor compared to pre-J-Term figures. Statistics are based on a baseline per capita waste number taken during J-Term.

"We're proving to the administration that we're willing to pull our weight to get the coffee we want," said Ives.

—MEREDITH KERNAN, STAFF WRITER

Mountain Club budget in limbo

By Dan Shea
Staff Writer

The Middlebury Mountain Club (MMC), founded in 1931 and, if it had membership rolls, would have nearly 2,300 names to record, is one of Middlebury's oldest and largest student organizations. The recent explosion of a water pipe has turned attention away from these two impressive figures, and toward its budget.

When a pipe burst in Adirondack House on the evening of Sunday, Feb. 15, attributed to a window left open in the third-floor MMC offices, the Club's administrative overseers imposed a freeze on new expenditures for the Club amid a conviction that the MMC should pay damage costs. As *The Middlebury Campus* reported last week, members were initially concerned that the College might cut vital MMC programs without fully establishing the culpability of the organization. At that time the College officials involved, including the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership (CCAL) Assistant Director for Outdoor Programs Derek Doucet, were unavailable for comment.

Since then, Doucet has assured MMC officers that most of these concerns are unfounded. For one, Doucet considers that the MMC is the "most likely candidate" to blame in the pipe burst that flooded the Career Services Office. Public Safety reported seeing an open window in the MMC's offices on Saturday, yet Doucet testified that he was in the offices at 10:30 p.m. on Friday night, and that there were no windows open at that point. He believes that a MMC member used the window as an entry point into the MMC's locked offices on Saturday — a hitherto-common procedure, according to Doucet — and that the in-rushing cold air caused the pipe-freeze that led to Sunday's burst. Assistant Director of Facilities Management Linda Ross agreed that "nine times out of 10, a burst pipe is caused by a window that's been left open."

Doucet decided that it was MMC's obligation to defray the damage costs, citing College Handbook Residential Policy I.C — "Student organizations are responsible for their collective behavior" — and the fact that the MMC had twice before in recent years been considered at fault in similar incidents in Adirondack House. Doucet subsequently froze any unplanned spending, including potential MMC-sponsored Spring Break trips to exotic or international destinations. He maintained that the MMC "feels responsible, and it has not appealed [the freeze] because it has not yet been charged a dime." Despite members' early concerns, "day-to-day" MMC expenditures, such as gas money for outings, have not been disrupted nor, Doucet insisted, will they be.

What ultimately will happen to the MMC's 2003-2004 budget is still unknown however. The procedure Doucet has put in place for charging the MMC calls first for the determination of actual damage costs, which, he says, Facilities Management has not ascertained beyond the initial $500 labor charge, and could ultimately be much steeper. After that, he plans to meet with MMC officers to establish a "working solution" with the organization. While MMC President Andy Hale '06 notes that his organization has not yet been established as the guilty party, he said that if culpability is proven, the MMC will "be responsible" and pay "every penny" of the bill. Doucet refused to speculate on what would happen if the figure is larger than the $6,000 remaining in the MMC's annual budget but acknowledged that the Student Government Association Finance Committee, the custodian of the MMC's budget, would have the final word on what costs the MMC will pay.

The school doesn't benefit from having an innactive MMC.
—Ami Kilchevsky '04.5

Although Doucet and Hale said the Club should be held financially accountable for its errors, the matter may be out of their hands. It is unusual for a student organization to be forced to pay out of its budget for mistakes of this nature, and Ami Kilchevsky '04.5, chair of the Finance Committee, compares the MMC's situation to that of a student crashing an organization's vehicle. "In the past, crashing a College vehicle meant that you [personally] were responsible." He noted that because the Finance Committee issues the MMC's budget, all MMC funds come from the College's pool of Student Activities Fees — which each Middlebury student contributes to annually. Kilchevsky feels that it should not be the onus of students who are not active MMC members to have to cover these costs. Even if the sum is a small one that the MMC can handle, Kilchevsky would still have qualms about the budget freeze. "This isn't what the [Finance Committee] does," Kilchevsky explained. "We don't pay for a student's accidents. . . The school doesn't benefit from having an inactive MMC. The College's insurance [against unexpected damage to facilities] would be better used instead."

Doucet would not comment on the possibility that the Finance Committee might deny the MMC permission to use its funds in such a manner. Doucet and Kilchevsky will meet on Tuesday to discuss the situation.

Reiterating that the MMC would accept responsibility should its guilt be established, Hale floated the idea of an auction or other fundraisers in the event that Doucet's use of the MMC funds is not allowed.

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY ERICH KAHNER

The North Sea has given me many things. There was the dead seal — coughed up onto the beach and stripped to the skeleton from the waist up. While poking the half-naked carcass with a long stick (what else are dead animals for?), my friend and I swapped stories from our youth about related gems of boyhood.

Like most interactions between bosom buddies, this bonding session turned into a competition. My friend won, having prodded the spilt innards of a nearly intact, beached whale on the coast of Nova Scotia when he was 12.

The North Sea also motivated me to write one of many abysmal, angst-ridden short stories. The scene was perfect: during an early morning run on the West Sands (the beach featured in the triumphant opening sequence of the movie "Chariots of Fire" — come on, you know the tune), I had the beach to myself and the unfettered joy of no homework propelling me forward.

Then, from out of the blinding sunlight that reflected off of the sand from farther down the beach, materialized a young girl perched atop a black stallion. Upon seeing the horse and girl gallop past me, I was overcome with inspiration. So I dashed back to my room and manufactured the freedom I felt in lines of stale, passionless prose.

Although I couldn't translate into fiction what that morning on the shore of the North Sea meant to me, the lessons yielded by that body of water aren't totally lost to the sometime greater sea of ignorance. One idea succeeds all the rest that presented themselves to me during my time away from Middlebury, and that idea is — nothing.

Nothing means more to me than ever before. No homework, no immediate goals, no worries…no stress.

I know this may provoke some smirks or pshaws! from most of you, so let me elaborate. Out of absence comes fruition — fruition of a friendship greater than what can be won from the convenience of a sports team (it's amazing how mutual worthlessness can bring people together).

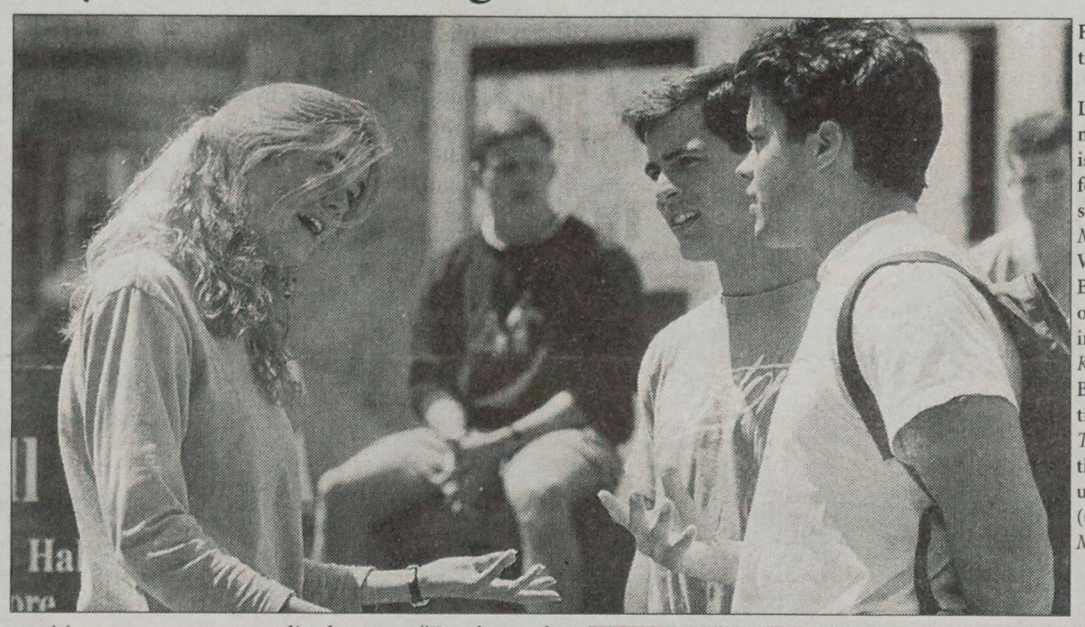
The blessing of nothing-to-do brought my friend and I to the seal carcass on the beach. Nothing-to-do led me, robbed of excuses, down to Grace's room and then sent us walking by the sea.

The sea and its vast nothingness dwarfed any overabundance of self-importance I may have felt. Now, obligation takes a back seat to doing nothing and worrying about nothing, and I envy those boats drifting on the North Sea, loosed from their moorings.

Social house roots found in fraternal history

A look at Middlebury's ever-evolving social scene, Part 2

By Andrea Gissing
Associate Editor



Fraternity life from the 1960s to 1990s.

LEFT: Fraternity members discuss sexism symbolism following controversial party (Courtesy/*Middlebury Magazine*, Winter 1989)
BELOW: Members of Sigma Phi Epsilon in 1965 (Courtesy/*Kaleidoscope* 1965)
BELOW LEFT: Advertisements placed in *The Campus* alerting the student body of upcoming events (Courtesy/*The Middlebury Campus*)

The evolution of a Middlebury brotherhood

To many students, it may seem as though the social house system is all the College has ever known. Indeed, some sophomores and first-years are incredulous when they learn that not only are the social houses a relatively recent development at Middlebury, but they are the successors to a long history of checkered fraternity life that dates to the 1870s. While fraternities had their heyday for many years, several factors led to their eventual demise and abolishment from campus.

An editorial published in *The Campus* in 1954 read, "Fraternities are the most powerful and partisan groups on the Middlebury campus." They were the center of social life, they provided the only options for student entertainment on the weekends. A vast majority of the male student body were members of fraternities. "In the 1960s, there were 730 male students and 11 fraternities," said Karl Lindholm '67, dean of advising and assistant professor of American Literature. "Virtually all the men were in fraternities. They ate meals there and many lived there." David Stameshkin, in his history *The Strength of the Hills: Middlebury College, 1915-1990*, quoted a Chi Psi brother as writing in 1939 that the fraternity "enmeshes every member with a network of personal relations. They are friendships and more; they deserve the name 'brotherhood.'"

The disintegration of fraternity presence

The presence and popularity of the fraternities on campus fluctuated greatly, especially as societal influences shaped the mentality of the student body. For instance, the ethos surrounding the 60s and the 70s was decidedly unfriendly towards fraternities and as a result, enrollment suffered. Additionally, in the early 70s Vermont's legal drinking age dropped from 21 to 18 and women's parietal hours were lifted. This ended the fraternities' stronghold on alcohol and coeducational events. Now students could go into town and buy a drink at the bar. Fraternity membership declined sharply — where in 1960 90 percent of sophomore men were members, only 20 percent of all men were by 1973. As well, the administration strongly affected the fraternities' standing. As the College insisted that they bring their facilities up to College standards, the fraternities felt the financial burden distinctly — four fraternities closed within four years due to both lack of membership and financial pressures.

When the College moved to a comprehensive fee, instead of separate tuition, room and board fee, the fraternities were put at a great disadvantage. "For those who ate and lived in the fraternities, they deserved money back," said Lindholm. "The amount returned to them was insufficient for the fraternities to sustain themselves." Lindholm hypothesized that the administration wanted to make Middlebury a fully residential college and wanted to discourage the continuation of the fraternities.

In the 1980s, fraternity popularity once again grew as the Vermont drinking age was raised back to 21. Despite setbacks that included the administration's decree in the 1980 "Document of Understanding: Fraternities" that the College would assume the responsibility for providing dining services on campus and that fraternities would be prohibited from offering dining, fraternities resumed their place as the center of social life once they became the only venue by which students could obtain alcohol. Student mentality leaned towards the more conservative, support of fraternities also grew and membership increased to 40 percent of Middlebury men in 1983.

"In 1985-1986, there were some 20 registered fraternity parties," wrote Stameshkin. "By 1988-1989, there were 240 such events." However, issues surrounding the male-dominated social scene on campus were prevalent, and many faculty expressed displeasure at the attitudes conveyed by the fraternities. There were several efforts on the part of the fraternities, in response to administration pressures, to allow women to pledge, however this was frowned upon and outwardly rejected by most of the national charters. Kappa Delta Rho, being the alpha house for the fraternity, was eventually granted special dispensation.

The argument that the fraternities were a negative aspect of Middlebury was emphasized as incidents of greater and greater magnitude, incurring increasingly severe disciplinary action, especially in the 80s. In the spring of 1983, Alpha Sigma Psi "Slug" was suspended for an indefinite period of time after their annual dinner dance at Bread Loaf was broken up due to public, large-scale drug use. In 1987 Sigma Phi Epsilon was placed on probation for lighting a bonfire that the Middlebury Fire Department had to douse, after all the fraternities had been instructed by the College to discontinue the "tradition" of lighting fires. Then in the spring of 1988, in the most notorious and most publicized incident, a mutilated female mannequin was hung from a Delta Upsilon balcony during the fraternity's annual toga party. The mannequin, with breasts dripping with red paint and a derogatory slogan on its back, hung for two days before Dean of Students Erica Wonnacott demanded its removal. This incident sparked heated campus-wide debate as the mannequin was, to many, symbolic of the fraternities' apparently institutionalized sexism.

The spawn of the social house

Led by professor of philosophy Victor Nuovo, members of the faculty proposed at the September 1988 faculty meeting that fraternities on campus be abolished. In November of 1988, the faculty approved by an overwhelming majority a subsequent resolution developed by the Faculty Council. The resolution, as described in the Nov. 11, 1988 *Campus*, "[called] for all members of the college community to develop input for a plan for a new social system to be approved by the faculty in March." The motion required that the existing fraternities end all affiliation with national fraternities, that Greek letters no longer be used to name residential social units at the College, the name "fraternity" be replaced with a gender-free term and that equal participation and leadership by women would be instituted into the existing fraternity system. The fraternities were given until the beginning of the fall semester, 1991, to meet the conditions. If the fraternities did not accept this initiative by the proscribed deadline, the Faculty Council intended to reintroduce the original proposal to abolish the fraternities.

"In the past almost every male at Middlebury was a fraternity member," said Lindholm in the Winter 1989 issue of *Middlebury Magazine*, "That includes trustees. But they are not blindly loyal to the fraternity system." As a student, Lindholm was a Delta Upsilon member. He felt that being in a frat was oftentimes convenient, but that the majority of brothers felt a greater identification with being at Middlebury.

"I definitely identify with Middlebury first, my teams second and with my fraternity third," said Gary Margolis '67, director of counseling and associate professor of English, and a one time member of Sigma Phi Epsilon. "There was various levels of allegiance," he continued, speaking of the support the fraternities received in the 80s. "There were those members who were very active in their houses and then there were those who couldn't care less and, or, wanted the fraternities out of Middlebury."

Adapting to the current system

The six social houses on campus now confront some of the same issues that once faced the fraternities. But most of the College's administration feels that the social houses are a positive development.

"I believe the social houses are an improvement over organizations that discriminate," said President John McCardell. "I also they believe they contribute positively in many ways, including social life. But that does not entitle them or their guests to indulge in behavior that flouts the law or the boundaries of good taste or judgment."

"One of the problems with self-perpetuating organizations," said Lindholm, "is once they start down a problematical path it's hard to turn around because the membership ends up being fairly similar."

A large difference in the current social structure with that of 20 years ago is the variety of weekend activities that are now available to students. The Winter 1989 issue of *Middlebury Magazine* reported students' concerns about the loss of their social life in response to DU suspension and faculty fraternity proposals: "From the floor, students voiced one overwhelming sentiment: fraternities were the heart of student social life, and without them, what would they do for entertainment?" Now, Margolis noted, it seems like there are several events throughout the weekend that students can attend, not all of which center around alcohol.

As development of the commons system increases, those options for students also increase. "We've invested in commons system," Lindholm noted, "but social houses add to the mix. If 50 to 60 percent of the student body decided to pledge, it would become an issue."

Celebrate until we terminate.....

Zeta Psi's
CASINO NIGHT
TONIGHT 9-1
$3.00
Semi-formal attire required

CHI PSI'S
"NEUTRON BOMB PARTY"
featuring
CIVIL DEFENSE
"Middlebury's newest and hottest band!"
–Rolling Stone Magazine
DANCING AND REFRESHMENTS
"GET BLASTED, BUT LEAVE THE HOUSE INTACT!"
– DRESS FOR BATTLE –
$2.00 WAR BOND CONTRIBUTION
DETONATION TIME: 8:30–???
SATURDAY OCT. 3RD

Proposal to limit SAC role

By Daniel Phillips
News Editor

At Monday's faculty meeting the vote on a proposal by the Faculty Council to relieve the Student Advisory Councils (SAC) of their responsibilities in faculty reviews was tabled until the next faculty meeting on April 2. In the Faculty Council's proposal, the SAC will still be contacted to meet with candidates and make an informal recommendations in faculty reappointments. What will not remain in the Handbook language would be the SACs' submission of letters of recommendation about the teaching effectiveness of faculty members being reviewed.

It's definitely not to be seen as limiting the voice of students, it just doesn't work anymore.
—Pieter Broucke
Secretary of FC

In consideration for such letters, the SACs are currently responsible for canvassing the opinion of students and alumni who have enrolled in the candidate's classes. Questionnaires are often sent out to majors and non-majors alike to help evaluate the faculty member's performance as an adviser or discussion leader where appropriate.

Pieter Broucke, secretary to the Faculty Council and associate professor of history of art and architecture, noted that SACs used to be appointed at an event called All-College Meeting Night. Although it was discontinued four or five years ago, Broucke described the night of lectures and introductions as a nice way for students to meet the professors and other students in their departmental major.

"The issue was that attendance had dropped," observed Alison Byerly, dean of faculty and vice president for Academic Affairs. "It didn't have a clear purpose," she said. "Departments are required to have meetings anyway."

Broucke added that many departments would convene early in the academic year to appoint their SAC, which spoke much more for the major at large. "In some departments," he continued, "that is no longer the case unless they need [an SAC] in the case of a review, and then the position becomes charged. Lack of responsibility becomes part of that pool," said Broucke.

"The letter that comes from the SAC has become very unreliable," he said. Broucke added that the Council has noticed "very little continuity among the letters from department to department, semester per semester."

Each departmental SAC chooses different methods to survey student opinion, and reports its results in a different way, the proposals rationale reads. The Faculty Council views the current process of students surveying peers enrolled in the candidate's classes during the term of the review as "problematic."

"Both make the candidate's review process more salient than necessary in the minds of students, and may undermine the faculty member's effectiveness both inside and outside the classroom," the proposal states.

Chair of the Student Educational Academic Affairs Committee (SEAC) Stephen Clarke '04 said that the proposal came as a surprise to his committee. "Students should have as much a role as possible," he said. "It's a challenging job to compile a letter for a professor you haven't had, but that doesn't mean it's not a job that shouldn't be done." Clarke added that "the letters contribute a different point of view than student evaluations," which are often hurriedly filled out during the final day of classes when students' thoughts are clouded by impending final exams. "The letters allow students to reflect on a complete view of the faculty member and to filter opinions down to what is most important."

"You might have had a bad class, but the professor could be the best thesis adviser known to man," suggested Clarke.

But Jim Ralph '82, professor of history and member of the Faculty Council, pointed out, "As we surveyed evidence that came before us, it suggested that the absence of the letters would not prevent the Council on Review from arriving at various conclusions about candidates. Sometimes there's a rush in pulling together information to meet deadlines," he said.

Aliza Hapgood Watters '04.5, the student chair of the English Department SAC, sees the Faculty Council's proposed move to eliminate the SAC role as cutting out such student input.

Watters herself has drafted several letters on behalf of current faculty members, and as she recalls, "No one does these surveys, so I put a lot of effort into it." She explained how she had to compile a mass student e-mail list from two years-worth of the professor's class rosters when sending out questionnaires. "But should a lack of response reflect the teacher's performance?" she asked, "Probably not."

Associate Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Bob Cluss, another member of the Faculty Council, agrees with students that there are ways to systematize the information to help make the letters more consistent, but feels that there is "so much effort involved to obtain information that it might be fairly redundant." Cluss noted that there is not complete agreement among the Council concerning the issue, but he nevertheless sees the tabled proposal as an opportunity to spark a faculty-wide discussion. "We have a lot of distance to cover on it yet," he continued. "This is where we decided to start and it is not necessarily where we will end."

Cluss contended that "a lot of the best aspects of the letter will be included in the instructions for student and alumni letters."

"This is where we decided to start and it is not necessarily where we will end."

Cluss contended that "a lot of the best aspects of the letter will be included in the instructions for student and alumni letters."

"It's definitely not to be seen as limiting the voice of students," continued Broucke, "it just doesn't work anymore."

Middcard may turn to debit charges

Continued from page 1

years when we didn't have to," said Corbin.

Corbin's office therefore proposed a second plan — making the campus accessible for use of public credit and debit cards. Students would be able to use Mastercard, Visa or their bank's debit card to pay for food at The Grille, to purchase tickets from student organizations and even to pay for laundry machines. "I can tell you that six years ago … it wouldn't have been possible," said Corbin, but "with the explosion of public debit, it seemed like it may be a viable alternative."

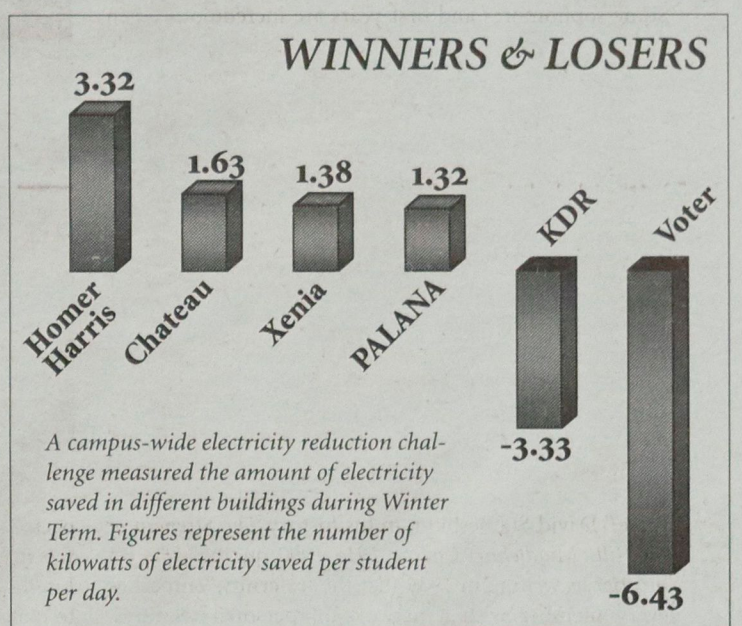
Vending machines would only be able to accept cash under such a system due to the small transaction amounts involved. Another hurdle could be long-distance telephone billing, which is currently charged directly to the pin bill. But given a precipitous decline in the use of College long-distance service, Corbin predicted that the College may not be selling any phone service at all in the near future.

Since the College first announced last spring that it was looking to eliminate the PIN bill, many students voiced concerns over the need for credit in the first few

months of school as they pay for expensive books and wait to receive their first paychecks from campus jobs. The problem is particularly worrisome for international students for whom United States credit may not be available. The Office of Financial Aid is considering offering cash assistance to students classified as "high need" which could be deposited in the account of either a Middlebury debit system or one of a local bank.

Once the decision is made by the Executive Committee next week, the College will move forward in solving the logistics of the chosen plan. "I will not take a stab as to whether [the Committee's decision] will go one way or the other right now," said Corbin.

Stats show campus turns down the lights in J-Term



A campus-wide electricity reduction challenge measured the amount of electricity saved in different buildings during Winter Term. Figures represent the number of kilowatts of electricity saved per student per day.

By Elizabeth Campbell
Staff Writer

During Winter Term, Middlebury College sponsored an electricity reduction challenge, offering incentives to dorms and on-campus houses to reduce electricity usage. The campaign began last year with a competition among the first-year class but was expanded this winter to include the entire student body. While improvements were generated in some buildings, electricity consumption increased in the majority of on-campus housing, resulting in a net increase of residential electricity use by the College.

The largest per capita reductions occurred in many of the smaller houses. Homer Harris House in Atwater Commons experienced the highest reduction in electricity, saving 3.3 kilowatts per person. Larger dorms such as Le Château, Coffrin, Stewart, Battell, Gifford and LaForce also reduced electricity consumption considerably.

The unforeseen growth in electricity use in on-campus housing is most likely due to the enlargement of the student body, the unusually cold weather in January — which forced many students to remain indoors — and the growing need for electricity to support increasing technological advancements.

"Our lifestyles are becoming ever more energy-intensive, and there are also more students living in the buildings than there were last year," said Nicole Grohoski '05, who managed the campaign. "Many people didn't get as excited about it as the freshmen had the previous year."

Although electricity output didn't decrease to the extent we thought it would, most importantly, I think people began to realize the general importance of the project.
— Chris Petrangelo '06

The challenge for electricity reduction was organized by Grohoski and Chris Petrangelo '06 — the heads of the electricity branch of the Middlebury Carbon Reduction Initiative Working Group (CRI) — in response to growing concerns of global warming. In order to effectively promote the reduction of electricity use, Grohoski, Petrangelo and other members of the CRI created signs that emphasized turning lights off when leaving rooms, shutting down computers when not in use and reducing elevator use. While the primary goal of the challenge was to reduce carbon dioxide emissions through electricity consumption, the CRI emphasized the importance of the heightened knowledge of the effects of excessive electricity usage produced by the campaign.

"Since we can't really change the electricity-intensive technologies people use, it seemed that education about how to lessen their impacts was a great place to start," said Grohoski.

Petrangelo added, "Although electricity output didn't decrease to the extent we thought it would, most importantly, I think people began to realize the general importance of the project, especially from the constant candlelight dinners at Ross as a reminder."

In the future, the CRI plans to improve the results of the campaign by providing more options for electricity reduction and by enhancing the education of the student body, faculty and staff about the harmful effects of unnecessary electricity usage. It is also considering limiting the competition to first-year students again. "Even though electricity use increased on the whole during the competition, many people learned more about why and how to reduce electricity consumption," noted Grohoski. "As we enter a new month with more hours of daylight, reducing electricity should remain an important goal for students, staff and faculty."

J-Term crusaders pay out of pockets

Website accrued over 2,500 petitioned signatures before faculty vote

By Amanda Goodwin
Staff Writer

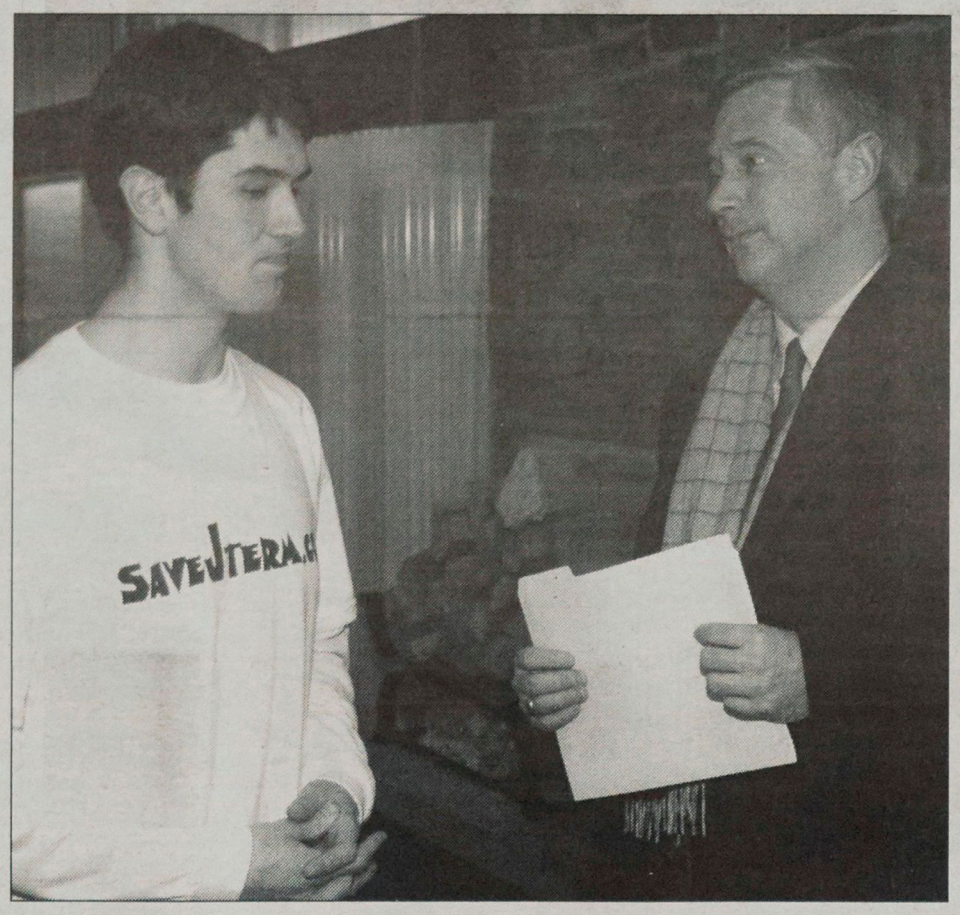
Every community has a means of voicing its opinion — for Middlebury College, that instrument has become the Internet. In its first week www.savejterm.com, a site devoted to the preservation of a Middlebury mainstay, has boasted 20,123 total page views, 5,549 unique page views and recorded an impressive 2,500 signatures on its online petition. In a letter to the faculty, website co-creators Pieter Nijnens '05, John Schirm '05.5 and Alfonso Maraver '05 described their mission: "We created this website to provide students and alumni a vehicle to express their sentiments on Winter Term." Maraver added, "The site is a manifestation of our love for J-Term. It is a sign that it is worth our time and effort to save it."

Indeed, the trio has invested significant time, energy and personal funds into the project, which has already attracted thousands of students and a notable contingent of alumni. The three have personally financed the venture, crafted posters and flyers, and sold www.savejterm.com T-shirts at no profit. "I applaud the dedication, and particularly the professionalism of the savejterm.com student team," said D. K. Smith Professor of Applied Economics Michael Claudon. "This effort alone speaks volumes for the sort of people who make up our community and the value-added that J-Term provides during their four years on campus."

Even after the faculty's decision to continue J-Term, the trio intends to maintain the site while the faculty considers the modified J-Term proposal against the status quo.

"We will continue to endorse the status quo," Nijnens said. "Anyone wanting to list their arguments for, or against, can send us an e-mail and we will post it on the site."

Beyond their appreciation of memorable J-Terms, Nijnens, Schirm and Maraver cited an absence of resistance to the impending elimination of J-Term as their primary motive for launching www.savejterm.com. "No one was taking any action to save J-Term. The Student Government Association (SGA) attended faculty meetings, but that is the SGA's job, and does not represent the extent of community support for J-Term," said Maraver. "Our website allows the community to fully participate in the J-Term debate."



Flaunting his J-Term pride before President McCardell, Scott Buckley '06.5 wore his savejterm.com T-shirt at Monday's faculty meeting where the website's three creators were in attendance.

Albert Bitici

Site visitors were presented with several options for engaging in the debate over the merits of Middlebury's Winter Term, including reading and submitting anecdotes and testimonials, sending a generic letter to the administration, signing an online petition and submitting pictures to the online gallery.

Students and alumni alike submitted numerous anecdotes about their J-Term experiences and, according to Schirm, took his and his colleagues' mission to a new level. "Everyone has been extremely receptive. We have received many responses from every part of the community, including students but also from many alumni and even parents," he explained. Schirm estimated that alumni support constitutes approximately 40 percent of all site submissions and petition signatures.

Recurring themes on the message board include the importance of J-Term as a tool for enforcing a broad liberal arts mindset and fostering learning outside of one's major, as an integral component of the language, teacher's education and study abroad programs.

In his departmental position statement, Gregg Humphrey, acting director of Teacher Education, described the programs that would have to be cut, including valuable courses and internships mandatory for the minor. "We will survive if J-Term is eliminated. Yet the intensity of the J-Term experience helps students learn what it means to be a teacher and whether they are suited to the profession," he said. "J-Term placements emphasize aspects of teaching such as arts education, special education and urban education that cannot simply be inserted into regular semester courses."

Remarking on classmates' posts praising J-Term for its commitment to offering a true liberal arts education, Andrew Jacobi '05 concurred, "In my three J-Terms I have completely immersed myself in Italian, organized a conference debating the harms of online piracy and worked 40-hour weeks as a chef at a local gourmet restaurant with an unpaid internship. If that isn't indicative of a diverse, intense liberal arts experience, I don't know what is."

President John McCardell presented a different point of view, putting the debate and campaign to save J-Term into perspective. "I do think we need to keep in mind that graduates of Middlebury pre-1968 (pre-Winter Term) got a pretty good education and don't necessarily believe that wisdom all of a sudden descended when Winter Term was introduced. We also need to understand why debates over calendar are taking place on many other campuses, some looking to institute a short term, others questioning its value... Let us all, in this debate, doubt a little in our own infallibility, and at least concede that there are *many* ways to structure a calendar and a curriculum, and that no one view of the matter has a monopoly on wisdom." Nevertheless, McCardell praised the site as a forum for discussion and its creators for their commitment to "put their money where their mouth is."

How do the savejterm.com masterminds feel about the proliferation of postings and opinions on their site? "It has been really interesting to watch the network growth of the site — it is completely exponential, going up," said Schirm. Nijnens remarked that the utilization of the Internet as a means of galvanizing support will become a way of the future for the entire Middlebury community. "[The web] is the easiest way to reach people," Nijnens said. "Everyone has access to each other and to you. We never could have received the kind of support we did with a paper petition. Not only would we have neglected many interested alumni, we would have pushed people to sign a document. With our site, the people who sign the petition are sincere in their desire to save J-Term."

Surprise faculty vote secures J-Term's future

Continued from page 1

Biochemistry Jeff Byers moved to call the previous question between the two proposals. The motion passed.

Davis does not believe the vote would have altered if it had taken place electronically or at a different time, due to the decisive margin of 27 and the unusual number of faculty present Monday.

"I've been on the faculty for 24 years and yesterday's meeting was the most well attended of any meeting since I've been on the campus," he said.

"Even when allowed to do so online, not everybody votes," Professor of History Paul Monod said. "About 35 faculty were not at the meeting yesterday, but I have no idea whether they would have voted electronically, or how it would have affected the outcome."

Now that the decision has been made, the next step will be either to implement the proposal or maintain the status quo.

"The Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) will put together Handbook language that implements Proposal A [to modify J-Term], and we will circulate that language to the faculty in advance of the April 2 meeting," Davis said. At the next meeting, faculty members will go through the language prior to voting on its implementation, and individuals will have the opportunity to amend it.

If passed, the modified J-Term proposal will go into effect during the 2005-2006 academic year, altering the status quo in two ways. First, beginning with the Class of 2006, students will only be required to enroll in two Winter Term courses instead of the four required by the current handbook language. Students will still, however, need 36 credits to graduate. Thus, in order to take two J-Terms off, they will need AP credits or to have taken five classes at some point.

The second change relates to the calendar. Currently, the break between Winter Term and spring semester is nine days. If the proposal is implemented, this time period will span from 11 to 16 days. This means that in some years, J-Term would begin earlier in January. (For example, J-Term 2006 would begin on Thursday, Jan. 5 instead of Jan. 9 and end on Wednesday, Feb. 1 instead of Friday, Feb. 3.) Davis claims the College would maintain its precedent of Commencement taking place no later than May 30, and therefore the end date of classes should not alter significantly. Commencement 2006 would still take place on May 28.

Davis thinks that student mobilization and passion impacted the faculty's decision, but in the end, the majority of members felt that Winter Term is justified academically.

"The strong, if not overwhelming consensus of the student body was certainly a factor in the faculty's decision," he said. He saw this consensus resonating from student-professor discussions, *Campus* articles and the savejterm.com campaign.

The faculty has been debating the issue since September, when members met at Bread Loaf in response to Executive Vice President and Provost (currently on leave) Ron Liebowitz's call for the EAC to investigate the merits and sustainability of J-Term. The question was last brought up both in 1995 and 1989.

"In the end, a majority of the faculty decided that the arguments in favor of keeping Winter Term outweighed those against it," Davis said. These reasons were by no means consistent among the faculty. Davis noted the opportunities to teach different courses, bring visiting professors to campus, engage in senior work, study foreign language intensively and participate in internships and independent projects as key explanations for the decision to maintain J-Term, at least in a modified state.

Vocal opponents of J-Term, such as Monod, are still skeptical, but resigned to the current fate of J-Term.

"While I regret the outcome, I have to accept it as the will of my colleagues," Monod said.

"[J-Term] will change in ways that we don't yet fully understand," he added. "One advantage of the two-semester system, in my view, was that we knew exactly what we were getting. With the revised Winter Term plan, I just can't say, at least not yet, what Winter Term will look like five or 10 years from now."

Monod maintains concern about specifics of the modified plan, including figuring out how to reduce the number of students on campus during Winter Term, so that some courses taught by external faculty can be eliminated.

"Otherwise, regular faculty exemptions from teaching Winter Term will have to be reduced, which could only be done if the burden of administration were radically shifted," Monod said. "Any of these options will involve big changes for everyone at the College."

Student Government Association (SGA) President Sam Rodriguez '04, who was present at the faculty meeting along with several creators of www.savejterm.com, spread the news to the student body in an e-mail Monday evening. "I, and the rest of the SGA, would like to thank the faculty for making the decision that we believe to be in the best interests of the entire Middlebury College community," the e-mail stated.

MAMAJAMAS INITIATE IN STYLE

Vlad Lodoaba

The clientele of The Grille was treated to a special show on Friday night: as part of their initiation into the Mamajamas, the three newest members, had to delight members of the opposite sex with lovely songs. Pictured is Gonzalo Alonso '06, wearing items from the Mamajamas Spring Hazing collection and entertaining a Grille manager.

SGA bill favors a first-year rush

By Chesley Thurber
Associate Editor

At Sunday's Student Government Association (SGA) meeting, senators debated, but did not vote, on a bill seeking to allow first-years to rush and pledge social houses in their second semester.

Currently, Middlebury students must wait until the fall of their sophomore year before rushing. Any proposed change to this policy would eventually need to be passed by the Community Council and then approved by the College president.

The bill, sponsored by SGA President Sam Rodriguez '04 and Press Secretary Andrew Carnabuci '06, cites as its purpose the alleviation of the social houses' struggle to fill the occupancy requirements of their houses. Since students must wait until the fall semester of their sophomore year before rushing and pledging a house, they typically do not live in social houses because doing so would require moving mid-year. Meanwhile, many house members are either abroad or serving as Junior Counselors while seniors are lured away by attractive senior housing options elsewhere on campus.

The theory behind the proposal is that by joining social houses as first-years, those members may be more likely to choose living in the house the following fall over the general room-draw housing options typically available to sophomores.

"I think it's a reasonable change. I think it's consistent with precedent in that Febs are currently allowed to rush in their second semester after receiving four credits," said Rodriguez at the meeting.

Inter-House Council (IHC) Co-President and Vice President of Omega Alpha (Tavern) Kris Burfitt '05 expressed his personal support for the idea, noting that a spring first-year rush would bring many benefits in addition to just filling house beds. "Through my pledge class and the membership of the house, I've made some of the best friends I've ever had. Why couldn't second semester freshmen also share this experience?" asked Burfitt in an e-mail to *The Campus*. He noted that neither the IHC nor Tavern had yet reached official positions on the bill.

Criticisms of the proposal were quick to surface as well. At the SGA meeting, Acting Dean of Student Affairs Marichal Gentry cited the need of first-years to stabilize their academic and social lives over the course of that first year as the principal reason behind the current policy. Rush and particularly the pledge process are known for their exacting toll upon participating students often resulting in lower academic performance and strained relationships with non-social house friends.

As a response to such worries, Student Co-Chair of Community Council Erin Sullivan '04 suggested that a minimum GPA requirement be attached, allowing only those first-years who have shown an ability to manage their academic workload to consider membership.

Questions also emerged as to whether first-years would be prepared to fulfill the obligations of house membership. SGA Senator Kiernan McAlpine '05 expressed concern that

If we were to get this to pass, the first-year students who pledge would be some of the most loyal members of the social house.
— Sam Rodriguez

students are not ready in their second semester to really know if the social house system is something in which they wanted to participate.

Rodriguez, however, feels that students will become even more dedicated house members if they join earlier in their careers. "I have a feeling that if we were to get this to pass, the first-year students who pledge would be some of the most loyal members of the social house."

The IHC plans to discuss the proposal during their meeting Tuesday night and the SGA hopes to bring the bill to a vote, possibly with amendments, this Sunday.

public safety log

MARCH 1 TO MARCH 7, 2004

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
3/1/04	6 - 7:30 p.m.	Theft	ID/Room key	Ross	No Suspects
3/2/04	3 p.m. - 7 a.m.	Burglary	None	Snow Bowl	Referred to Vermont State Police
3/4/04	Unknown	Theft	Bike	Outside	No Suspects
3/4/04	1:50 a.m.	Vandalism	Structure/Window	Palmer (ZOO)	Open
3/5/ 04	12:51 p.m.	Theft	Laptop	Voter	No Suspects
3/6/04	1:07 a.m.	Vandalism	Window	KDR	Open
3/7/04	11:45 p.m.	Vandalism	Exit signs	Le Chateau	Referred to commons dean

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY CAROLINE S. STAUFFER , THOMAS C. DRESCHER AND DANIEL L. J. PHILLIPS

President Accused of Plagiarism

The President of Central Connecticut State University Richard C. Judd was found to have submitted a plagiarized op-ed piece to *The Hartford Courant*.

The newspaper staff claims a reader brought the similarities between Judd's submissions and other material, including a submission from *The New York Times* and material from the northern Cyprus government website, to the attention of the editors. The University's Board of Trustees is currently analyzing the article, which was published Feb. 26. It discussed relations between Greek majorities and Turkish minorities on the island of Cyprus. If the accusations are proven, Judd could face removal from office.

Judd told the newspaper's editors that he had taken numerous notes from various sources while preparing the article, and that he must have mistakenly assumed notes he had made were his own.

Two years ago, Judd was sentenced to 30 days probation on felony charges of impersonating a police officer to pull over a motorist he believed was speeding.

— Source: Cnn.com

Christian college cranks out interns

Patrick Henry College is training the conservative Christian leaders of tomorrow. The college, founded in 2000, is designed primarily for evangelical Christian homeschoolers with political aspirations.

Of the approximately 100 interns working at the White House, seven are enrolled at the Purcellville, Va., College. Another current student is involved in President Bush's re-election campaign, and a Patrick Henry graduate is on the staff of one of the president's top political advisors. In the four years since the college was established, 22 congressmen have employed at least one Patrick Henry intern.

Michael Farris, the founder of the Home School Legal Defense Association and the president of Patrick Henry, established the college four years ago with the stated goal of training home-schooled Christians "who will lead our nation and shape our culture with timeless biblical values."

— Source: NYTimes.com

Tufts grad elected Greek prime minister

Last Sunday Costas Karamanlis, a 47-year-old graduate of Tufts University's Fletcher School of International Relations, was elected prime minister of Greece. Karamanlis' sweeping victory for the New Democratic party — founded by his uncle in the mid-1970s — ends more than 10 years of socialist rule in the nation. Garnering more than 45 percent of the vote, Karamanlis will become the youngest prime minister in modern Greek history.

There is a great sense of urgency among Greece's newly-elected leaders with the Olympic Games slated to begin in Athens in just a few months. "The conservatives face huge tasks: completing the badly delayed projects for the August 13-29 Olympics and making sure the $800 million security network keeps pace with possible threats," reported CNN last week.

The nation awaits campaign promises from Karamanlis to enact a smaller government, less bureaucracy and fewer taxes to stimulate growth and stint an unemployment rate of about nine percent. He also plans to strengthen Greece's role in the international community.

— Source: Tufts e-news

localnews

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ROAD TRIP!
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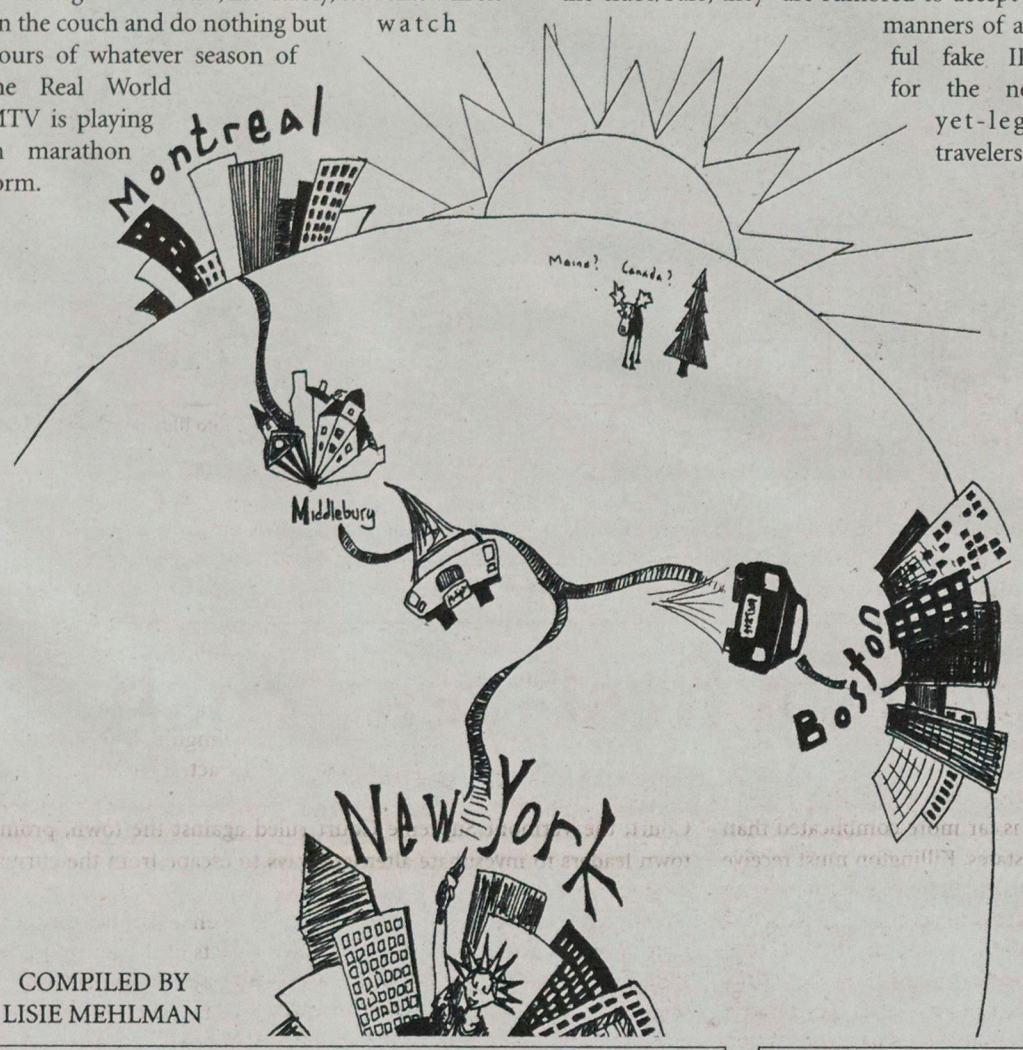
Planning your trip on Rt. 66

Guide to cool Spring Break spots for hot nights on the town

Winter Carnival's "Road Trip" may sadly be behind us, but Spring Break is fast upon us. For those students not going to Nassau to compete in the wet T-shirt contest at Waterloo or to partake in the general bacchanalia that is Spring Break, and are not lucky enough, as I am, to venture with their parents to Palm Springs — where they will be the only person not constantly clad in plaid, Greg Norman sweater vests and traveling without a respirator — road trips present themselves as the perfect option. Well, at least they are an alternative to returning home where, inevitably, students will sit on the couch and do nothing but watch hours of whatever season of the Real World MTV is playing in marathon form.

Let's at least hope it is the one in Seattle. At their core, road trips require a sense of youthfulness, ruggedness and spontaneity. I do believe we have some of that to spare here on campus, so here are some tips for planning successful road trips to some of the finest destinations the Northeast has to offer. These travel suggestions are based on the assumption that students are traveling on a college budget. Hostels may not be the Plaza, but they are inexpensive and clean, and, let's be honest, they are always full of cute foreigners with accents. As for the clubs/bars, they are rumored to accept all manners of awful fake IDs, for the not-yet-legal travelers.



COMPILED BY
LISIE MEHLMAN

Montreal

Lodging

HI-Montréal, Montreal
1030 Mackay Street
866-843-3317

This hostel is within walking distance of great restaurants and clubs. It is quite clean and the staff is unbelievably helpful. Prices start at about $23 per night.

Restaurants

Shed Café
3515 St Laurent
514-842-0220

This swanky restaurant is sheer class. American fare, it boasts terrific French fries and onion soup. An in-house DJ supplies an added bonus.

Night Life

Tokyo Bar
3709 St-Laurent, Montreal,
514-842-6838

This hotspot has a circular bar, a terrace and two main rooms for dancing. The first features hip-hop and disco while the other is a funkier, more lounge-like spot.

Attractions

Old Montreal

The windy streets of Old Montreal, filled with art galleries, quaint cafés and tourist shops, lead visitors through what feels like a charming European village.

New York City

Lodging

The Central Park Hostel
19 West 103rd Street
212-678-0491

With beds starting at $25 a night, this hostel is safely nestled in the upper west side and is a block from Central Park West and a few minutes walk from Columbia University. It is only a short train ride away from Times Square, Rockefeller Center, Port Authority, Penn Station, Chelsea, Greenwich Village, SoHo and more.

Restaurant

Mama Mexico
2762 Broadway, between 101st and 102nd Streets

A festive Mexican joint on the Upper West Side, Mama Mexico's waiters wear sombreros and help give the restaurant its flare. It is good for people watching and is especially fun for large groups.

Nightlife

Waikiki Wally's and Lucky Cheng's
101 2nd Avenue
212-673-8908

Waikiki Wally's is a 50s style tiki bar with Hawaiian décor and leis galore. It is connected via a rather swanky tunnel to Lucky Cheng's, a drag queen bar and karaoke lounge that serves Polynesian cuisine and boasts nightly entertainment by drag queen cabaret performers. *Grease* tunes are favorites.

Attraction

Mars 2112
1633 Broadway
212-582-2112

The tourist trap of all tourist traps, you haven't really lived until you have eaten at a restaurant that requires you to travel via space shuttle to Mars before serving you.The Martian that walks around is a bit frightening, so watch out. Guaranteed laughs.

Boston

Lodging

Hostel International
12 Hemenway Street
617 -536-9455

Located in the Back Bay area, this hostel is close to some of the city's best museums and night clubs. A short walk from Fenway Park and Newbury Street, the hostel's prices start at around $30 a night.

Restaurant

Dick's Last Resort
55 Huntington Avenue
617- 267-8080

If you are looking for rude waiters who yell at you when you order, phallic birthday hats and dirty, picnic tables on which to eat, Dick's is the place to go. There is live music nightly and dancing can get rowdy on the weekends.

Nightlife

The Hong Kong Bar
65 Chatham St, Faneuil Hall
617-227-226

A dive bar that has been compared to a frat party (I am sure it can't compare to a night out at ADP), the Hong Kong Bar houses a multicultural crowd comprised primarily of students and is excellent for people watching.

Attraction

Boston Duck Tours
617-267-DUCK

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Tax savvy Killington moves to secede

Mountain would remain in Vermont if effort is approved

Photo Illustration By Vlad Lodoaba

By Kate Doorley
Staff Writer

"Live free or die." Every New Englander is familiar with the New Hampshire state motto. Now, however, a group of citizens in Killington, Vt., would like to make it their own town motto as well. While most town meetings focus on routine issues, such as approving budget requests and voting in board members, last Tuesday's town meeting had a different purpose. A group of town residents and officials brought forth a proposal that had been discussed amongst town leaders for several months — a proposal that Killington join New Hampshire.

So far, the town of Killington has invested $20,000 in studying the proposed move. The actual process of moving is far more complicated than merely changing mottos. In order to switch states, Killington must receive approval from the New Hampshire Governor and State Legislature.

Then, provided that New Hampshire agrees to accept Killington, the Vermont Legislature must likewise approve the secession, an unlikely outcome. If Killington is determined to leave and Vermont vetoes the action, the next step is to take the battle to the U.S. Congress and, if necessary, the U.S. Supreme Court. Killington residents point to its past connection with New Hampshire. When the town was chartered in 1761 it was part of New Hampshire. It joined the Republic of Vermont in 1777 and remained in Vermont when it became a state in 1791. Municipal leaders in both Vermont and New Hampshire, however, have expressed doubts about the feasibility of returning the town to New Hampshire.

The impetus for the proposed move has its roots in the Act 60 property tax bill. Act 60 was passed in 1997 as a way to improve schools across the state. Under the act, each town in Vermont receives an annual state grant per pupil, which is funded from a pool formed by property tax payments from every town, as each piece of real estate in the state is assessed at the same tax rate.

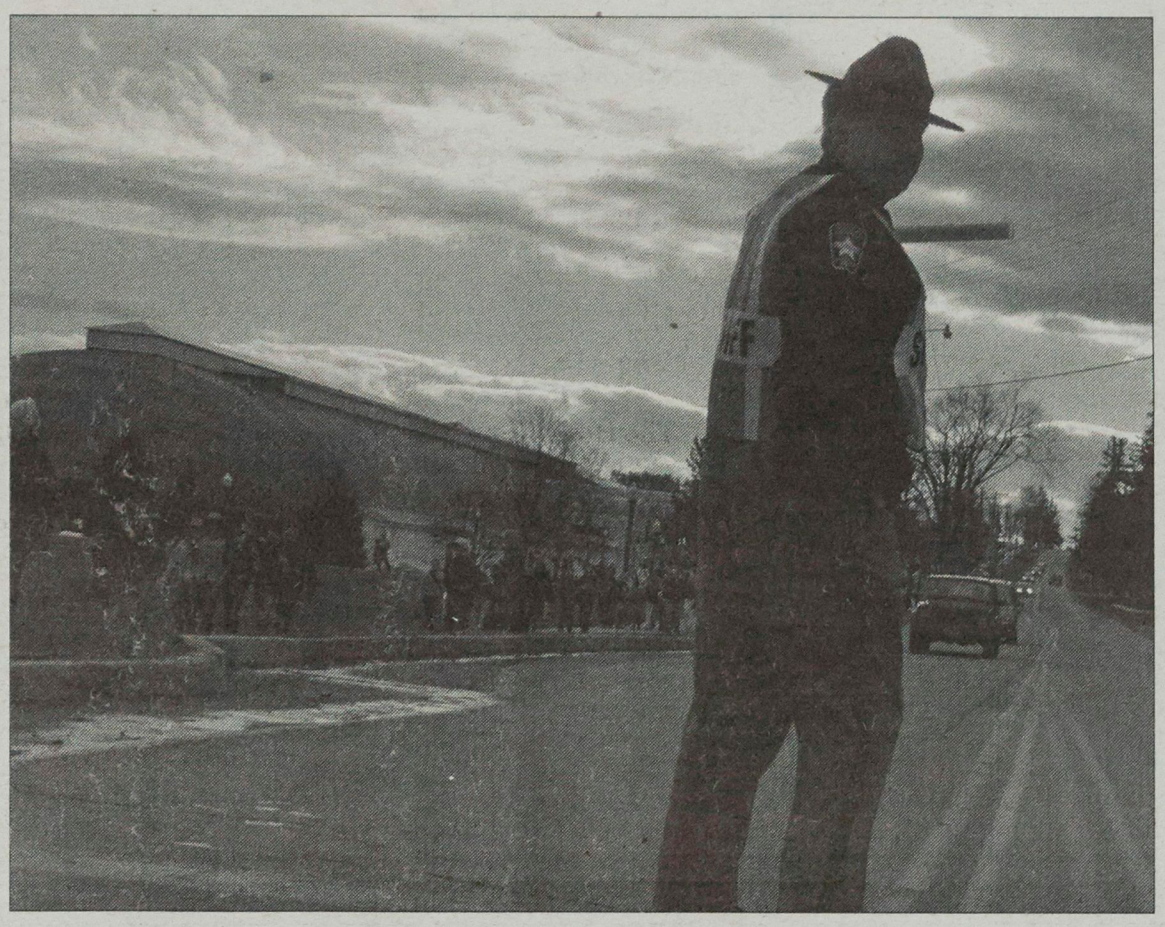
Towns are allowed to spend above this grant if they desire, but they must then pay additional taxes to the state to make up for it. These extra tax revenues are then funneled into a shared pool and spread among poorer school districts. According to the act's authors, a few so-called "goldtowns" were supposed to pay for the school funding of all the other towns in the state.

Needless to say, this revenue sharing program has not been well received in affluent towns such as Stowe and Killington. The state has faced several lawsuits challenging the legality of the act, including one brought by the town of Killington. Although Killington won its case in Superior Court, the Vermont Supreme Court ruled against the town, prompting town leaders to investigate alternate ways to escape from the current tax structure.

Killington residents will most likely be given a significant amount of time to consider the positive and negative aspects of their proposed secession. Currently, Killington residents and businesses pay approximately $20 million in property, income and miscellaneous taxes, while only receiving around $1 million in aid from the state. At the town meeting it was explained that, were the town to move to New Hampshire, residents would also probably halve their current total tax payments while also receiving a greater amount of state aid.

On the other hand, Killington would lose one of the town's largest assets in the move. The ski mountain bearing the town's name is actually owned by the state of Vermont, and therefore would remain part of Vermont even if the town of Killington chose to leave the state. There are many issues for the residents to consider before following in the footsteps of our founding fathers, who refused to put up with taxes they didn't like.

THE CROSSING GUARD



Directing traffic after the hockey game on Saturday, Deputy Gardner of the Sheriff's Department also keeps an eye on fans excited by the outcome of the NESCAC championship, in which Middlebury defeated Trinity and secured a berth in the NCAA tournament.

Photo by Vlad Lodoaba

RURAL REALITIES

By Crystal Belle

He stood in the front of our expensively decorated classroom, replete with high ceilings and a grand piano. His chocolate skin, warm face and wide but strong build captured everyone's attention. Francois Clemmons was about to speak. Yes, many of us had seen him around campus or singing in concerts in Mead Chapel, yet there was something about that moment that made him appear different — more commanding.

Francois began to talk about his childhood in the rural South, where schools and water fountains were segregated. His voice was filled with pain, but also pride and patience, as audience members, many from priviliged upbringings, listened intently. He spoke of not being able to go to the school that was directly across the street from his house for the simple reason that he was black. The faces in the audience grew embarrassed. As is often the case, a retelling of historical realities produced knowing looks — "Aahhhh, we know all about this episode in history." Some members of the audience even sighed, and these sighs seemed to emanate from the most privileged segment of American society — middle class, white males. Why is race such a "scary" topic for those who hold the most power in this country?

Francois made sure to address the issue. He noted that it was the duty of those in power to help others who were in less fortunate social and economic situations. This simple act of kindness is the foundation of his success. After Francois migrated to Ohio, leaving the segregated South behind, he realized that the same segregation existed in his new mid-Western community. Once accepted into prestigious Oberlin College, Francois and his parents knew they would be unable to pay for such an education. Thanks to a high school teacher with a connection at Oberlin, Francois had the opportunity to sit in on an alumni meeting in which he had the chance to do what he does best — sing. Impressed by his academic record and floored by his musical talent, the alumni provided Francois with a fully paid college education. Wealthy white men reached out to help a poor black boy during the historic Civil Rights Movement. Was this a miracle or common courtesy? According to Francois, this act is an example of those who realize the power for change which they possess, and put that power to good use.

Finally, the moment came when Francois sang to us. As he belted out "We Shall Overcome," he encouraged the class to sing along. The few students who would be classified as "minorities" in this country were unafraid and willing to sing the lyrics of the song. Other students seemed to be uncomfortable and reluctant, unable to let a note slip out. After he finished singing, Francois frankly stated: "I am happy to see the looks of embarrassment on many of your faces." In other words, why are people so afraid to acknowledge the past? If one is unaware of history, how can we approach our future as if it were a cradle of change? That afternoon, this male diva challenged the "privileged" to ponder why the ball was still in their court.

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THE LOCAL FLAVOR

BY JOSHUA CARSON AND DAVID PERITZ

RESTAURANT
STEVE'S PARK DINER
LOCATION
MIDDLEBURY, VT
HOURS
MON-SAT: 7-2, SUN: 6-2
FEATURES
AMERICAN DINER FARE

How would you respond if I told you there is a new 24-hour diner in town? Well, there isn't. But there is Steve's Park Diner on Merchant's Row in the center of town, offering a menu full of diner staples at reasonable prices — perfect for the college diet as well as the college budget.

Although the contemporary façade gives the long, barn-shaped building a modern aspect, once inside you know that you have just entered a small-town diner. Seat yourself and expect a warm and friendly waitress to hand you a menu brimming with palatable breakfast and lunch items, available all day. Don't expect a gourmet selection, just the basics — done right.

We started with a cup of mushroom soup — a thick emulsion of cream and a copious amount of mushrooms — strong enough to sink a battleship. We recommend immersing a few saltine crackers into this hearty starter dish.

Next came the main courses. The menu provided a range of different options, from steak and eggs to grilled turkey sandwiches with mashed potatoes. We ordered three entrées in order to sample the full range of Steve's offerings — pastrami on rye with potato chips and a pickle, two eggs over hard with corned beef hash, home fries and toast and, finally, a double thick hamburger with French fries and coleslaw.

The portions of each meal were ample, and the hamburger cooked to perfection. The ground beef chunks broke off seamlessly from the grilled patty. The French fries appeared to be homemade. The eggs were fine, as eggs tend to be, but the home fries left us picturing a home more reminiscent of a New Jersey freezer warehouse than a Vermont country kitchen.

The pastrami meat was lean and tender but, let's be honest, Steve's is no New York deli. The minimal volume of the cured meat would make my Jewish grandmother roll over in her grave. Nevertheless, the grilled rye and melted cheese made it a positive sandwich experience.

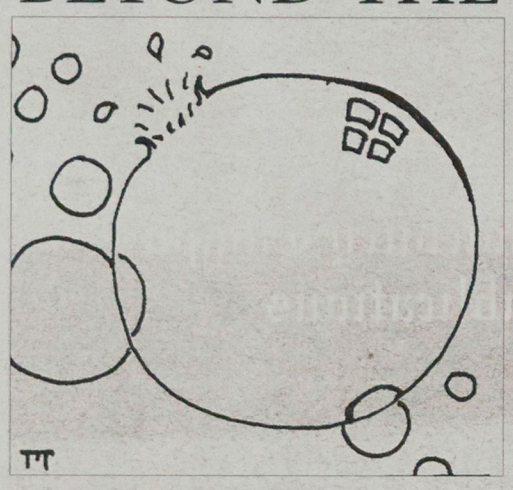
Our meal ended with a grilled blueberry muffin — the heat penetrated thoroughly and evenly throughout the entire dessert. The warmth encouraged liberal use of Cabot butter.

I was tempted to sample the so-called Grapefruit pudding, which to my dismay, turned out to be Grapenut pudding. The dessert board was at the other side of the restaurant and my farsightedness provided the wait staff with a good laugh.

Steve's is also a great place to visit if you are looking for a quite place to grab a cup of coffee and get some reading done. The soft cushioned booths and large plate glass windows provide a great atmoshere for people watching along Merchant's Row.

An appetizer, three full meals and a dessert totaled a reasonable 20 dollars. Considering the welcoming service, warm and tranquil atmosphere and authentic fare, we would recommend this restaurant as a viable and inexpensive alternative to the increasingly mundane offerings at Proctor during lunchtime.

BEYOND THE BUBBLE



BY CLAIRE NIELSON

The luxurious, you might even say decadent, Middlebury Inn is only a short walk away. One fine Saturday afternoon when my visiting mother and grandmother had grown tired of shopping up and down the strip in B-Town (not Boise, for all you other Idahoans), we found rejuvenation inside the Middlebury Inn.

We took our afternoon tea in the quaint parlor. Offered daily from 2 until 4:30 p.m., the all-you-can-have tea and sweets is complementary for guests and five dollars for friends and visitors. So gather up your friends and "lovahhs," as Carrie Bradshaw calls them, and head on out there.

As I walked in, I took note of the cardboard cutout British guard, who seemed at home in his surroundings. Looking around at the offerings, my mother was quick to point out that true British teas do not have buffets. But this tea did, and on the table sat biscotti, a type of cookie with the texture of biscotti, lemon Madeleines and cheesecake. I was disappointed to see that there were no muffins, for we ladies had enjoyed them earlier in the morning at breakfast. My grandmother, borderline senile, had clearly been reveling in her bran muffin so I decided to get one for the madre and myself. Par habit, my mother was quick to point out her mother-in-law's error — the muffin was, in fact, not bran, but chocolate. This would not have posed any problem had my grandmother not given up chocolate for Lent.

We sat down to enjoy the scenery. Route 7 *is* picturesque. However lovely as the tea was, the people watching couldn't quite compare to Ross at rush hour. In fact, we were joined by only one fellow diner.

When I got up to get some hot water, I may have, I hate to admit it, tampered with the beautiful pewter decantor in which it was stored. This is something I could never admit to, and so, instead, I merely informed the waiter that the decantor was out of water. Upon realizing that the mechanism was broken, he replaced it with a hideous, black, plastic carafe.

All in all, sweet tea was thoroughly enjoyable. However, I worry it had less to do with the biscotti textured cookies and more to do with the ongoing bickering between my mother and her in-law. Find your own entertaining company and check out sweet tea. Perhaps they will have fixed the decantor by then. Call the Middlebury Inn at 802-388-4961 for more information.

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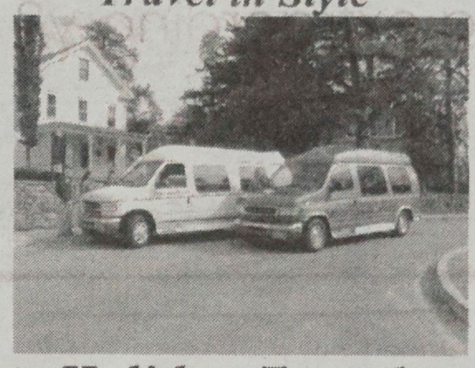

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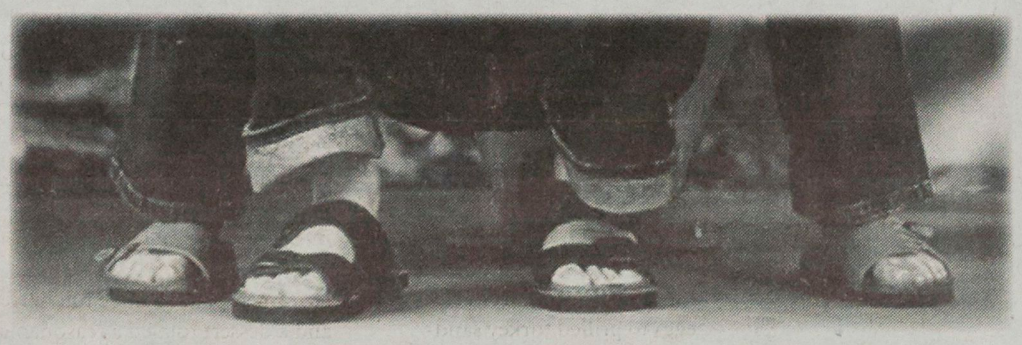

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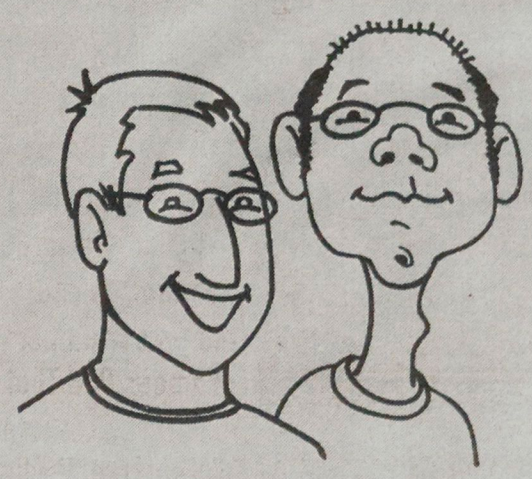

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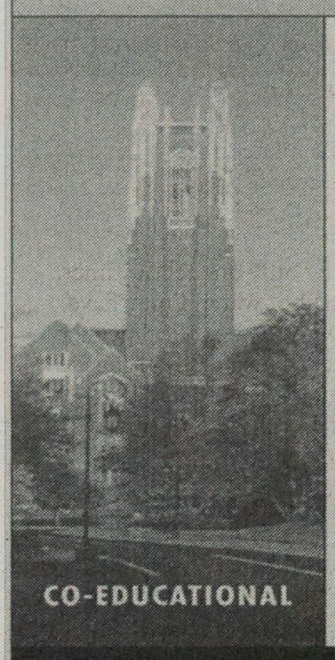

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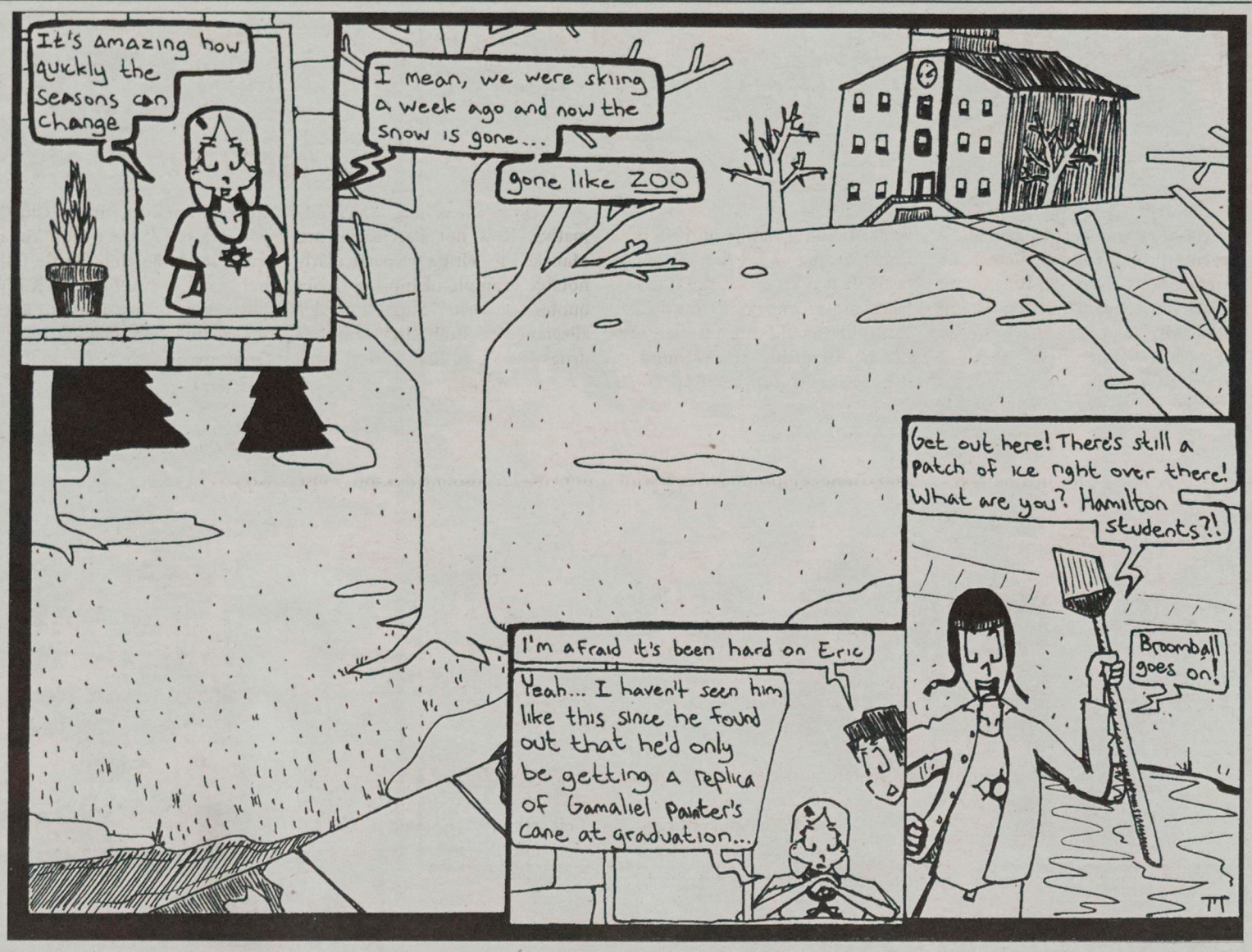
It's amazing how quickly the seasons can change
I mean, we were skiing a week ago and now the snow is gone...
gone like ZOO
Get out here! There's still a patch of ice right over there! What are you? Hamilton students?!
Broomball goes on!
I'm afraid it's been hard on Eric
Yeah... I haven't seen him like this since he found out that he'd only be getting a replica of Gamaliel Painter's cane at graduation...
TT

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Editorial

The Administration's Shake Up

The Princeton Review says Middlebury's administration "runs like butter." It's an apt description, but one penned before President John McCardell announced his intent to step down. Add to that the recent announcement by Secretary of the College Eric Davis and Vice President for College Advancement Sally Holland that they, too, will vacate their administrative posts. The uncertainty about the administration's future throws the butter analogy into turmoil.

Connecticut College and Boston University's recent experience demonstrates how turbulent administrative transitions can be. In both cases, failed presidential successions came at significant financial and psychological cost to the institutions. Middlebury's situation is particularly fragile because McCardell's successor will confront the dual challenges of adjusting to a new environment and reassembling an administrative team.

The administrative tone stands to be significantly recast by this shake up atop the hierarchy. *The Middlebury Campus* values the visibility and accessibility of the current administration. We hope the new leadership — both the president and his or her team — will maintain a commitment to meaningful interaction with the wider community. Senior staffers are now regularly spotted around campus, whether grabbing coffee at The Grille or teaching a seminar. McCardell, for example, holds open office hours. He teaches a popular course on the Civil War. And he also responded to a recent "Notes from the Desk" column in this newspaper by inviting the author — who had asked the president to get out and about more often — to lunch. The Board of Trustees should consider such commitment to open relations with students a prerequisite for any administrative post. We hope this tone isn't lost in the process of refashioning the administrative architecture. The Trustees should consider adding this language to the administrative help wanted ads: Those who intend to lock themselves in Old Chapel need not apply.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's Web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

As a father of a son who is a Marine who is now back in Iraq for the second time, I urge patriotic Vermonters to mark this coming March 20 — the anniversary day of the illegal invasion - through some visible personal action. If you believe that President Bush's "pre-emptive strike and unilateral action"-based foreign policy is immoral, act on that.

If you are concerned about the 3,000-plus injured American soldiers, and the 8,000-plus Iraqi civilians killed and the thousands injured, as well as the awful environmental destruction, do something, please. Join any of the numerous activities going on March 20, including the Vermont Boycott for Peace, which is demonstrating against companies who make major political contributions to supporters of President Bush's war.

Won't it be a great day when the United States spends as much on finding ways of preventing war as it spends to kill, mostly civilians, in illegal wars?

Sincerely,
Rev. Paul B. Bortz
East Middlebury

To the Editor:

Our society places great emphasis on tolerance and freedom, especially as part of a liberal education. To this end, Middlebury College prides itself on tolerance of all people. The College handbook directly states that it is expected that "all members of the College community respect the dignity, freedom and rights of others" and that "prevention of another's free expression of ideas" is unacceptable.

Despite these ideals, intolerance is still an issue on campus. Last month, an anonymous censor tore down posters announcing meetings for a new student group, Students for Life. This group declares that its purpose is to increase dialogue and awareness on campus about issues relating to the sanctity of human life and to ensure that women facing an unplanned pregnancy are supported and educated about their options, including keeping their child. While the issues this group seeks to tackle are controversial and emotional issues for many people, every Middlebury student has the right to know about the group and its meeting.

As a member of Students for Life, I am disappointed that any Middlebury student would stoop to censorship by vandalism. I trust that the college community will continue to work to create an environment in which people of all views can gather for respectful discussion of important and highly charged issues.

Sincerely,
Mary Elizabeth J. Nora '06
Vernon Hills, Ill.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during offical college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by BD Press in Burlington, Vt. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

Can hip-hop rival the canon?

During the course of February, Middlebury College and the rest of the nation participated in several celebrations of African-American culture. Not surprisingly, those who participated in the events prominently discussed the tremendous accomplishments of Black musicians. There is no doubt that African-Americans more or less defined the best American music of the 20th century. Indeed, one would be hard pressed to find talents equal to Louis Armstrong, Miles Davis, or Jimi Hendrix. Unfortunately, a lot of this year's coverage of black music focused on hip-hop and R&B, with a number of pundits practically deifying the artists. While there is certainly merit to be found in some hip-hop and R&B songs, the tremendous credit attributed to these artists is definitely worth questioning.

Because most of the coverage of hip-hop in *The Middlebury Campus* has focused on the lyrics of the artists and not the music itself, this will be the focus of my article. As Crystal Belle '04 wrote, "Many white kids from the suburbs listen to hip-hop on a 'superficial basis,' sometimes failing to truly understand the nature of the lyrics, only focusing on the 'hot' Neptune beat." If it is true that the musical beats are secondary to the lyrics, then this would suggest that the real beauty of hip-hop is found in the words of the artists. If this is the case, then many of them need to step it up several levels.

The first problem with those who trumpet hip-hop lyrics is with regard to the lives of the artists. A lot of "scholars" seem to believe that artists who have suffered or lived difficult lives are necessarily successful artists. In reality, the biography of the artist should not be central to understanding his art. Little is known about Homer or Shakespeare. Nobody even knows who wrote Beowulf. In short, the artists' personal life should never be a prerequisite to understanding his excellence.

In *The Campus* article on hip-hop and R&B [Underground hip-hop surfaces, Feb. 26], Hans Manzke writes, "Nineteen-year-old Dizzee Rascal hails from East London, having faced all of the violence and negativity that Tupac, Biggie or 50 Cent ever dealt with... he lets his ridiculously thick English accent bounce through delightfully obfuscated beats and samples, telling the stories of his and his peers' lives." I do not doubt that Dizzee Rascal has lived a tough life, he has certainly endured much more than I ever will, but that doesn't necessarily make him a good artist.

While telling stories of urban life may be interesting and informative, it is not necessarily art. Manzke, in citing a particularly notable example of hip-hop lyrics quotes the writer Slug: "I pledge allegiance to Budweiser and free drugs / Peace to Rick James, Anna Nicole Smith, Bill Clinton / And Motley Crue /And anyone else who has ever utilized their 15 minutes of fame / to realize their true dreams of being an absolute jerk-off, / just to keep the masses entertained." Evidently, Slug lives a "hard" life of drinking and doing drugs and feels disdain for recognizable celebrities. In this regard, Slug is similar to Edgar Allen Poe. The only difference is that Poe was a brilliant artist and Slug is not.

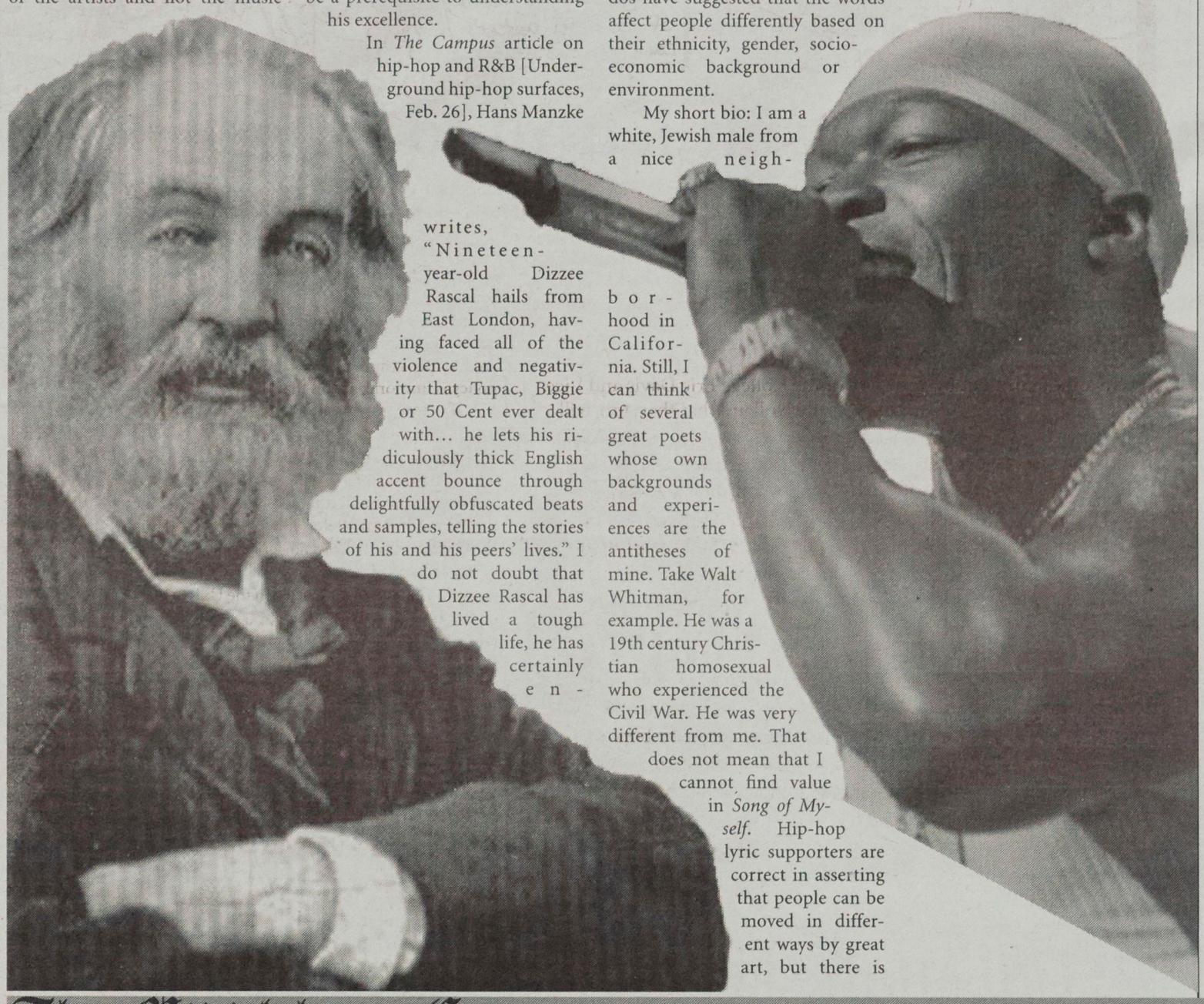
Perhaps my inability to like hip-hop lyrics is a reflection of who I am. Some hip-hop aficionados have suggested that the words affect people differently based on their ethnicity, gender, socio-economic background or environment.

My short bio: I am a white, Jewish male from a nice neighborhood in California. Still, I can think of several great poets whose own backgrounds and experiences are the antitheses of mine. Take Walt Whitman, for example. He was a 19th century Christian homosexual who experienced the Civil War. He was very different from me. That does not mean that I cannot find value in *Song of Myself*. Hip-hop lyric supporters are correct in asserting that people can be moved in different ways by great art, but there is a problem when the so-called art fails to move people's emotions at all.

The most celebrated Hip-Hop work of last year, "In Da Club" by 50 Cent, speaks the words "You can find me in the club, Bottle full of bub/ Look mami I got the X if you into taking drugs/ I'm into having sex, I ain't into making love/ So come give me a hug if you into getting rubbed." A great party song? Absolutely. A fun song? For certain. A great lyrical achievement that professors should closely analyze? No way.

Hip-hop makes people want to dance and party. I listen to it everyday when I jog and that's why the artists get my money, but the month of February should focus upon some of the other great black musicians of the 20th century, of which there are countless.

BRYAN GOLDBERG '04
A ECONOMICS MAJOR
FROM LOS ALTOS, CALIF.



NOTES
FROM THE DESK

All this activism on campus over recent administrative decisions is depressing. I can't watch the guys selling "savejterm.com" T-shirts for another second without feeling sorry for them. I have trouble talking to friends who want to live off campus senior year but cannot because they have been "officially" disciplined. Discussing ZOO's situation with anyone involved in a social house is a futile conversation.

I sound pessimistic, but I speak the truth. There is not the slightest chance that the administration will change its mind, its decisions or its vision of this college on behalf of anyone outside of Old Chapel, much less on behalf of student sentiment. Take the building of Bicentennial Hall, for example. The town balked at the structure's original plans and pleaded for a smaller building. The Board of Trustees then promptly came up with the plan that made Bi-Hall into a seven-story monstrosity, the biggest nongovernmental building in Vermont nestled into our own little hillside.

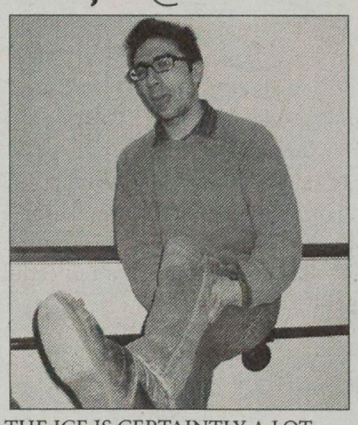
Despite a multitude of seniors requesting to live off campus, the school decided to chop accepted requests in half. They did so behind the excuse that students were dominating the Middlebury housing market. Quick question: what market? The administration wants seniors on campus because the town would then get on board for the building of the College's two newest additions to Middlebury's skyline.

Now that students over the age of 21 can drink outside a registered social space (a privilege indeed), one will be hard pressed to find a registered social space. Mark my words, ZOO will not be the first social house to receive the boot. The Community Council will eventually find a way to strip Xenia of its home.

I'm shocked J-Term was "saved." Despite the outpouring of alumni and student support, the term's future still came to a faculty vote. I applaud the students trying so hard, the ones who appealed to their professors to change their minds. But let's be honest, the administration is furious the faculty had a change of heart. Old Chapel wanted to rid itself of J-Term, and sadly, something else, something fun, will probably go in its place.

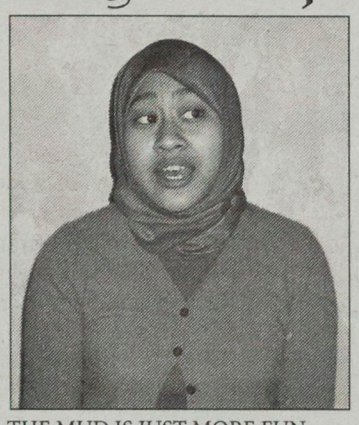
DAVID FREEDMAN
SPORTS EDITOR
THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The Middlebury Campus online poll



THE ICE IS CERTAINTLY A LOT BETTER BECAUSE IF YOU HAVE DANSKO CLOGS, LIKE I DO, IT GIVES YOU THE CHANCE TO SLIDE DOWN THE WALKWAY TO MCCULLOUGH.

—GIORGI ARESHIDZE '04



THE MUD IS JUST MORE FUN. WHO DOESN'T WANT TO GET SQUISHY?

—"OKKA" BAROKKA '05

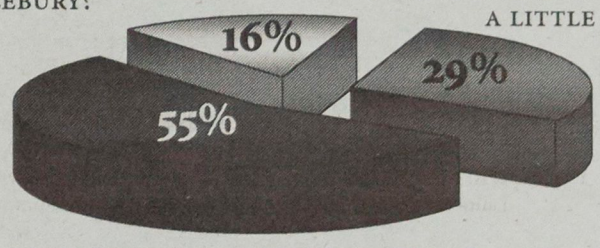
THE MUD, IT'S MARCH: IN LIKE A LION, OUT LIKE A LAMB.

—CAITLYN OTTINGEER '06

WHAT'S MORE FUN: THE MUD OR THE ICE?

THE MUD, HOW ELSE ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO GET DOWN AND DIRTY OUTSIDE MIDDLEBURY?

THE ICE, NOTHING IS MORE MEMORABLE AND HILARIOUS THAN SEEING YOUR BEST FRIEND LAND ON HIS BUM BECAUSE OF A LITTLE ICE.



BOTH, NOTHING IS MORE MEMORABLE AND HILARIOUS THAN SEEING YOUR BEST FRIEND SLIP ON SOME ICE AND LAND IN SOME MUD.

Results based on 103 responses collected between March 3 and March 9 at www.middleburycampus.com

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION: WILL THE CHANGES THAT THE MIDDLEBURY ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE TAKE THE COLLEGE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION?

Fair Trade coffee follies

If you had a choice between economic stagnation and growth, which would you take? This is the choice we are making for coffee farmers in South America, and I fear that we are leaning towards stagnation. "Fair Trade" coffee seems to be a no-brainer, but in the complicated world of a globalized economy, choices are not always so easy. By providing South American farmers with a subsidy, we prevent them from modernizing their coffee-growing operations and doom them to stagnation.

The problem is the same as with any subsidy — people will only pay a certain amount for any given item, and no amount of good will or wishing will change that price. Prices are not set, as the Global Exchange Group (which I notice is a middleman for a number of "Fair Trade" coffee companies... hmm...) suggests, by a group of capricious, high-powered commodity traders in New York and Chicago. Prices are set every day in Starbucks and Dunkin' Donuts through customer feedback. If prices are too high and people start to forgo their daily half-caf mocha latte, Starbucks will lower the cost of their brew until the yuppies return.

So if our free-trade system isn't providing for farmers and their families, doesn't that mean the system is fundamentally flawed? Of course not. There is a glut in coffee, and prices are low because coffee is being overproduced. The market is sending these farmers a clear message: Move out of the coffee market! There are many more profitable crops (like the cocao plant, thanks to our "war on drugs") for them to farm.

Besides claiming to help coffee growers, the "Fair Trade" coffee proponents claim that since their coffee is shade-grown and organic, it will make the coffee healthier and more "environmentally sustainable." This is a complete lie. First of all, since crops can't be certified "organic" unless they use no synthetic pesticides or fertilizers, farmers resort to more old-fashioned fixes. As John Miller wrote in the *National Review*, "Then there's one of the natural fungicides preferred by organic coffee growers in Guatemala: fermented urine. Think about that the next time you're tempted to order the 'special brew' at your local organic java hut." Also, their inability to use modern fertilizers decreases the yield of each harvest, forcing the farmers to sow more coffee (and use more land) while reaping less. That is hardly "sustainable."

If we are going to be committed to social activism, perhaps it would be more appropriate to provide farmers with low-interest micro loans so they can either modernize their equipment or move into more productive industries. To sacrifice the economic progress of thousands of individuals so we wealthy American college students can feel better about ourselves seems, well, unfair.

Brink Slattery '07
An undeclared major
from New Canaan, Conn.

Letters to the Editor Continued

To the Editor:

As a weekly columnist in *The Campus*, I understand how it might be difficult to come up with something interesting to read every week, but as a journalist and a film major I was at a loss after reading Aaron Strumwasser's Reel Critic installment last week.

As a reputed film critic, Strumwasser should be ashamed of his pithy denunciation of "The Passion of The Christ" without even seeing the movie. First, Strumwasser throws out the little one-liner "Does the film portray Jews unfairly? The probable answer is a good reason to avoid watching the movie." The *probable* answer? How can Strumwasser condemn a movie without even seeing it, simply based on a hunch about what it "probably" is about? Isn't that the job a film critic—to see a movie and then disseminate an informed opinion of its merits? Whether the film is more anti-Semitic than the Bible passages it rather literally is drawn from is something that could best be judged after actually seeing the film, but that doesn't stop Strumwasser's pat revelry in his willful ignorance.

Strumwasser then turns the bulk of his attention to denigrating Mel Gibson's acting career, as if this somehow justifies his refusal to see the movie he is reviewing. Don't worry about the fact that Mel Gibson doesn't even act in his movie. I'm not trying to defend Gibson, whose career is about as checkered as any major star's. Still, I would think that Strumwasser, as a supposed film aesthete, would applaud a filmmaker creating a work based on real convictions without looking to the Hollywood bottom line. Instead, he wants to focus on laughably juvenile complaints about the historical liberties of "Braveheart." If Mr. Strumwasser would like to give up playing as critic, I'd be happy to recommend any number of legitimately qualified replacements.

Sincerely,
Peter Yordan '04
New Canaan, Conn.

Unique, unlimited, useful, united J-Term

As an active member of the Middlebury alumni community, I have followed the J–Term debate with interest. After reading last week's *Middlebury Campus* edition, I felt it was time I voiced my strong opinion that J-Term should remain a Middlebury tradition.

I must admit, I do not know the logistical or economic problems associated with running the month-long term. I can imagine that hiring temporary professors is a burden and organizing housing is troublesome, but the benefits of such a period of time are tremendous. While attending Middlebury, I was able to experience the best that J-Terms had to offer. The opportunities I had during those months allowed me to travel, gain hands-on work experience and build useful networks that I have maintained into graduate school. I would not have been able to duplicate this experience during the regular semester, or even during the summer.

Since I entered as a Feb, I spent my first J-Term on-campus, in the classroom. I was able to take a class in a subject not usually taught, Intro to Italian Culture, with a visiting professor.

The following year, I secured an internship at the Harvard Public Health School with a physician that now runs the parasitology branch of the Centers for Disease Control. The research I did with him inspired my future graduate work, and helped me network in a competitive field. The following year I was able to travel to Bangladesh on a grant with faculty member Professor Ian Barrow, where I had an amazing educational experience unparalleled by any classroom setting. In my last year at Midd. I decided to explore the applied world, so I worked as an intern in Burlington for the Vermont Public Health Department.

I know my example is only one of many cases where students have been able to explore careers, do research or even go to new countries with this special time. I had many friends who also used J-Term to gain internship experience, travel for thesis research or explore projects they would not have had time for during the regular semester. When I think back on my Middlebury experience, J-Term stands out as one of the amazing differences that sets Middlebury apart form other schools. For me J-Term was a time of unlimited opportunity to explore my interests and potential career goals. I would hate to see this unique education experience disappear due to budget cuts.

Carmen Tedesco '01.5
A Middlebury College graduate

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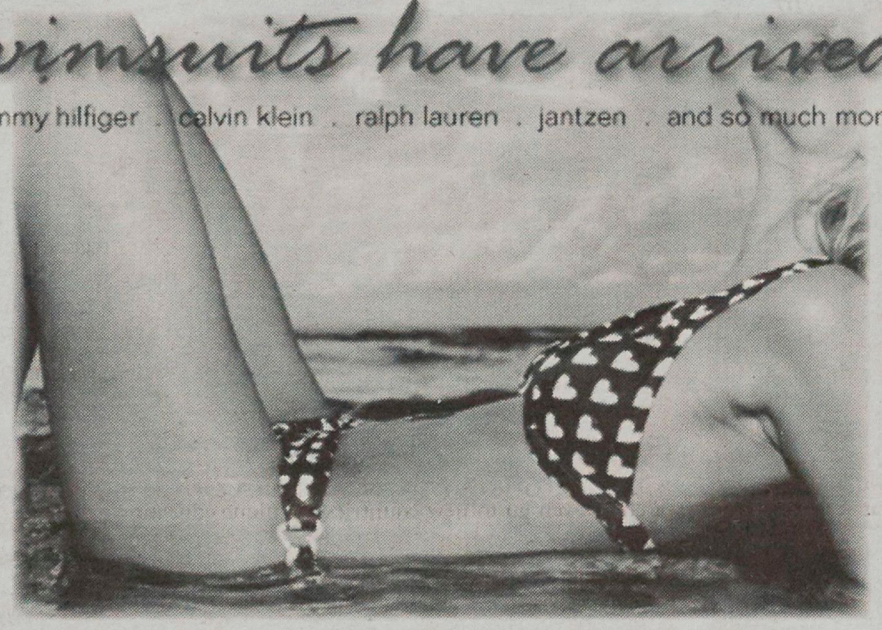

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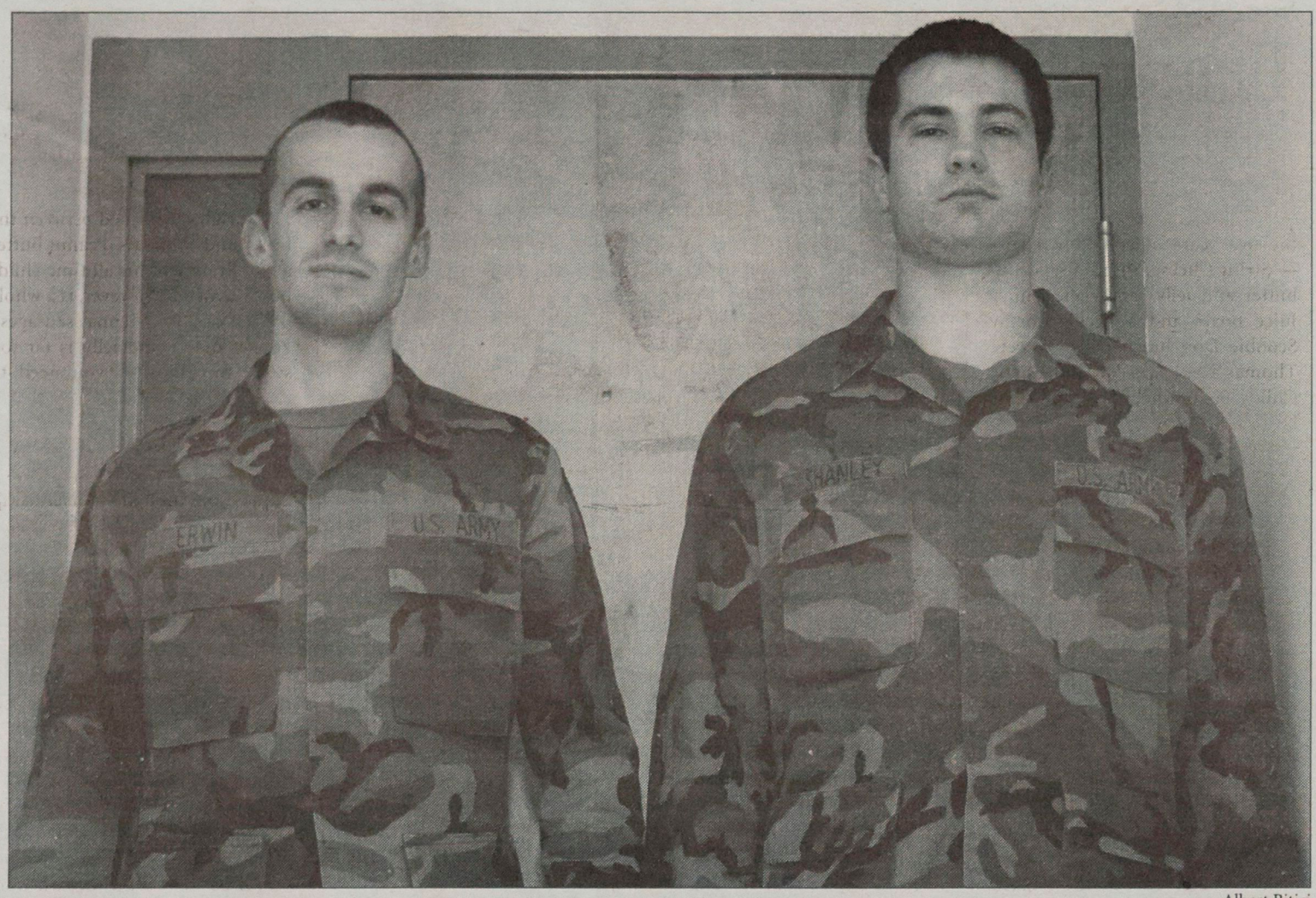


Albert Bitici

Juniors Jon Erwin and Eric Shanley are the only Middlebury students in ROTC. They plan to go on active duty in the army after graduation.

Campus cadets: in the army soon

By David Barker
Features Editor

The building burned with student anger.

Recitation Hall, home of Middlebury's Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) program literally burned when at the high point of antiwar protests against the expanding war in Vietnam a student set it on fire.

It was May 7, 1970 and Middlebury was observing a six-day national strike to protest the killing of four students at Kent State. Six years later, ROTC was abandoned at Middlebury because of a lack of interest. Now, 39 years after the first combat troops were deployed in Vietnam, two Middlebury students are learning the officer trade at UVM in Burlington.

Jon Erwin '05 and Eric Shanley '05 keep their hair short and boots shined. In their closets you'll find green fatigues and formal uniforms along with polo shirts and athletic gear. They are Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) cadets and every Monday, the two slip away from liberal arts to focus on the art of conducting an ambush and leading a platoon in military science classes.

Three Saturdays a semester, they learn about patrolling and land navigation while doing field training exercises and labs at Ethan Allen Firing Range in Jericho, Vt., and at Camp Johnson near St. Michael's College. A conversation with the two reveals much more than financial motivations for doing ROTC.

"I've had an interest in flying my whole life," said Shanley, who wants to fly helicopters after graduation. When they complete their four-year training and become Second Lieutenants, cadets are expected to serve eight years in the Army Reserves or complete four years of active duty. "We've signed the dotted line," said Shanley.

Even though Erwin and Shanley are locked into the program, they view the chance to become an officer as an opportunity. "I've had a fairly privileged life," said Erwin. "I feel like I should be given the opportunity to serve other people around the world." Unlike Erwin who settled on ROTC before Middlebury, Shanley joined midway through his first year despite having military ambitions in high school. "I started an application to West Point senior year but I lost interest at the last at the last minute," he said. September 11th and the subsequent U.S. involvement in the Middle East made him want to help out. "The country was built on the personal sacrifice of others," he said.

The sacrifice so far has included more than just Mondays and the occasional weekend field labs. Shanley spent last summer getting his parachutist certification at jump school in Georgia and learned mountain warfare tactics with the Vermont National Guard over Winter Term. He commutes to Burlington to practice his marksmanship with a rifle club. Erwin, who missed out an opportunity to study abroad because of ROTC, has plans to shadow a Second Lieutenant in South Korea for a month this summer. "I'll be with a real platoon," he said.

The country was built on the personal sacrifice of others.
— Eric Shanley

The two hope that extra experience will pay off at the 32-day National Advanced Leadership Course in Fort Lewis, Wash., this summer. "In order to continue on to your senior year of ROTC you have to pass the course," said Shanley. Erwin and Shanley will get the chance to lead a group of cadets through a simulated mission in which fighting tactics come into play.

Erwin and Shanley are quick to emphasize that the skills they've acquired during ROTC are applicable at Middlebury. Though they know the basics of marksmanship, both will tell you that ROTC is more about learning how to lead and making ethical decisions than about loading a gun. Erwin said he's become more disciplined as a result of ROTC. "It makes me think about my character," he said. Erwin's and Shanley's leadership skills extend beyond the battlefield to the playing field at Middlebury. Erwin will captain the cross country running team next fall and also runs indoor and outdoor track. Shanley plays football and compares the tactical knowledge of the military with the detailed X's and O's that make up football plays.

Courtesy

ROTC instructors chat while Middlebury cadets drill in the background in 1968. The program was mandatory for freshmen and sophomores until 1967 and trained the bulk of students who served in Vietnam.

If life skills are gained through ROTC, should Middlebury bring the military back to campus? Fred Stetson '65 was one of 160 Middlebury graduates to head to Vietnam. "I'm disappointed that Middlebury doesn't have ROTC," he said. "I believe that Middlebury graduates would make great officers," he added, pointing to the school's strong foreign language programs and tradition of cross-cultural appreciation.

Antagonism towards the program while it was at Middlebury fermented long before it was abandoned by President Robison in 1976. A 1965 *Middlebury Campus* editorial criticized ROTC because it devoted "too many hours to course materials of no intrinsic merit or relevance." Karl Lindholm '67, assistant professor of American literature and civilization remembers weekly drillings in back of the athletic complex and military science courses with little affection. "I don't pretend I was the greatest student at Middlebury but the classes were a joke," he said. "It [ROTC] was a source of tremendous tension and hostility."

The precipitous decline in participation from 1965 when 71 students did ROTC compared with 1975 when only four graduated as Second Lieutenants tells of the program's popularity in wartime. Even with the conflict in Iraq, Erwin and Shanley plan to go active upon graduation. "I wouldn't join ROTC if I wasn't interested in serving my country," Erwin said.

Fresh club sends hot lunch packing

By Abbie Beane
Features Editor

Pining for a throwback to the lost years of cold lunch yore — String Cheese, Slim Jims, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, Juicy Juice boxes and a heckle-worthy Scoobie Doo lunch pail? So were Thomas Heitkamp '06 and Carrie Childs '06, brainchildren and ringleaders of the recently born Brown Bag Lunch Club.

Heitkamp and Childs divined inspiration for the idea from their disdain for high traffic during lunchtime rush hour in the dining halls. Furthermore, seeing how lunch and dinner showcase essentially the same fare, Heitkamp explains that the club avoids this profusion of gastronomic uniformity by simply eating a bagged lunch. "It prevents us from becoming sick of dining hall food so quickly."

Heitkamp started the club around the second day of last fall semester when he began picking up his lunches in Hamlin Dining Hall, which provides the bagged lunch service deli style à la "Deb," the sandwich mastermind, in the interest of saving time. He would then cart the chow to his room to double-task with his homework.

After just a short while, Heitkamp began to notice other cold turkey trend setters like himself, such as his friend Childs. So the bagged lunch duo then decided to enjoy the resplendent, orange colors and warm weather of fall in Vermont by eating their sandwiches outside near the sidewalk between Bicentennial and Coffrin Halls.

Soon after, this childhood tradition caught on. Presently, as many as 20 students now join the group at 12:15 p.m. until they decide to break the day's session.

When asking Heitkamp what kind of cold cuisine he is most fond of, one receives an infinitely detailed rundown of the bagged lunch essentials. First and foremost, claims Heitkamp, "Lunchables are the easy way out. I'm a real fan of the sandwich." Understandable. Turkey on rye with Swiss cheese wins out as the sandwich of choice — but no mayo. "You have to be careful with mayo," says Heitkamp, "because you never know what kind of mayo [a deli] could be using. Hellmann's is fine, but Miracle Whip is awful."

He then elaborates on the art of mayonnaise, specifying the ideal thickness of the spread. Light mayo is best, but again one must be cautious. Also, never use mayo from a packet — it's much too warm and necessarily thinner in consistency in order to be made "squeezable." "The mayo makes it or breaks it," Heitkamp pointedly concludes.

As for the necessary snack food supplements, apple juice is an old staple, as is the apples itself. "The apple is key," he says. "Apples during the fall in Middlebury are amazing, and the ones in the store [during winter] just don't have the same snap." When asked why he chooses apple juice over all the other exotic fruit juices available in the 21st century, Heitkam explains, "Mom got it right the first time, so why change it?"

As for dessert, the group compulsively looks forward to Rice Krispie Treat day so they can stock up for later lunches. And chips? — the ultimate lunchtime hinge point. According to Heitkamp, a sandwich isn't complete without Lays originals stacked *between* the bread and cold cuts. Peanut butter and jelly, one of his all time childhood favorites, however, is a whole other "can of Vienna sausages." Peanut butter and jelly is far too sweet for chips — you need to swallow a bite of the sandwich first, eat a few chips, take a couple sips of apple juice and then repeat, he expounds. Don't get the wrong impression though — Heitkamp hasn't canned the whole idea of tuna just yet. Like Jessica Simpson, he's also a big fan of the Chicken of the Sea, which makes regular appearances at Brown Bag Lunch Club meetings.

Commitment wise, Heitkamp missed only one meeting last semester to attend a luncheon at President McCardell's house. Five of the most thick-skinned brown baggers even braved the bitter J-Term temps in the name of "cold" lunch solidarity. Rain or shine, they'll be there, and they encourage anyone with interest to join them any day of the week.

At the moment their meeting schedule remains somewhat sporadic due to language classes during the lunchtime hour, but a tentative projection has them meeting Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays around 12:15 p.m. in the usual spot.

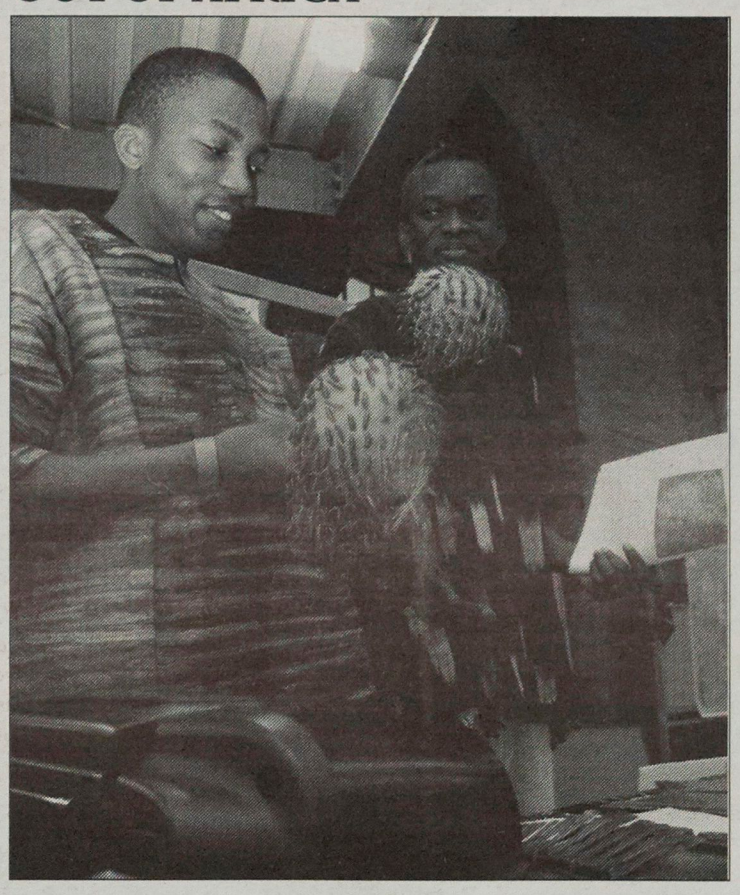
"The best part of the club is the people," Heitkamp explains, "and the random conversations. One of my favorites was when we were speculating on why an umbrella doesn't fog up inside. Someone thought it had to do with the umbrella's focal point, but then we decided an umbrella doesn't have a focal point. But tossing theories is great anyway."

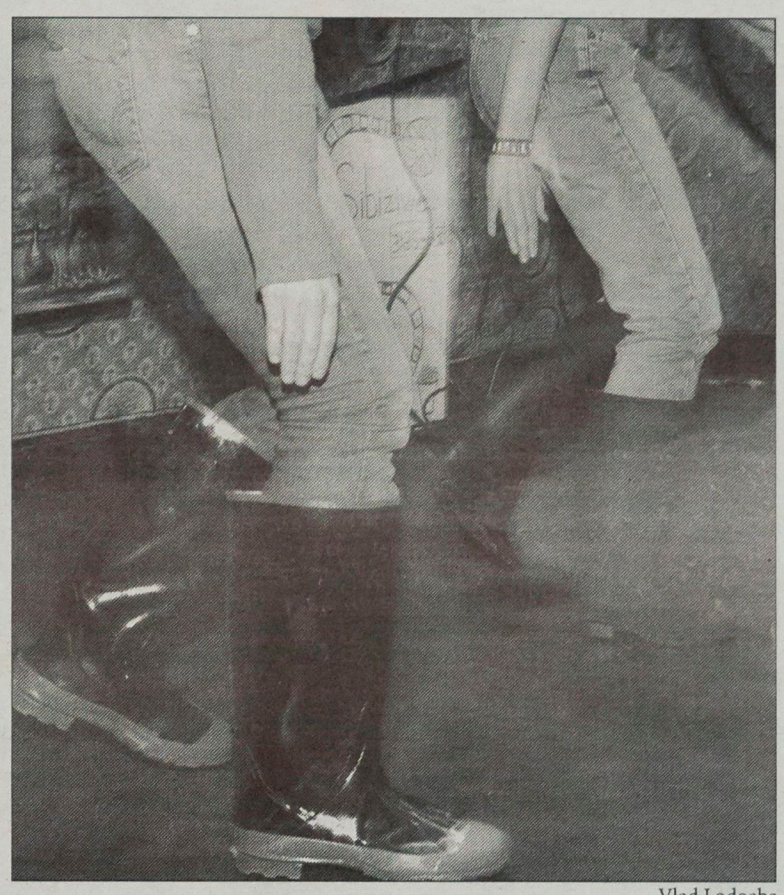
Seems the club is all that and a bag of pondering potato chips.

Vlad Lodoaba

Thomas Heitkamp '06, one of the founders of the Brown Bag Lunch Club, finds solace in Fruit Rollups, sandwiches and String Cheese.

OUT OF AFRICA





Vlad Lodoaba

UMOJA, committed to raising awareness about relevant issues on the African continent, kicked off its symposium last weekend with music, speakers and interactive events in the name of student and community enlightenment. "Modern society is deprived of a full comprehension of the [African] continent," claimed the symposium committee, "because it is overshadowed by the victimized image of a hopeless and struggling people." Bringing this fact to light was the essence of this year's UMOJA African Experience Symposium, "Flip the Coin." Last weekend's event included the Fula Flute Ensemble, a lecture by Dr. Oppertune Zongo on "Africa in the 21st Century: Strategies for a better Representation, Understanding, and Cooperation." Workshops, slide presentations and student-led performances in the McCullough Student Center on Saturday afternoon [featured above] filled out the ambitious schedule.

POPROCKS

BY LANFORD BEARD

As my bundles crossed the mailroom partition — that liminal space where dreams are made and broken — I knew that waiting inside were faux-designer duds with cutesy phrases like "Georgia — If you think *I'm* sweet, taste the peaches."

Hi, my name is Lanford, and I'm a 'Tweenaholic.

For those of you unversed in the concept of the 'Tween, it's the newest pop contrivance that describes 'It' girls and boys who exemplify that awkward age b*etween* 16 years old and millionaire status.

As my final months here at the College coincide with the 'Tween Revolution, and I bumble toward business chic, sophistication and adulthood proper, I can't help but succumb to yearnings of recapturing my youth.

For this little pop junkie, the stirrings for my lost 'tweenage years began when I first set eyes on "Lizzie McGuire," the live-action-cum-animated peek into the psyche of the titular character, whose trials and tribulations include matriculation to middle school, training bras and, of course, boys.

When the series began, Lizzie was a wee pre-teen but at the close of her spunky run, Lizzie developed into an eighth grade fashion plate with moxy for miles, surprisingly large tatas and the makeup skills of a MAC professional.

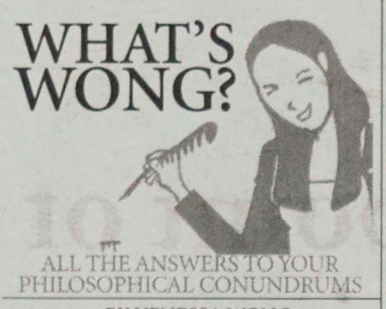
Sadly, soon after Lizzie's motion picture debut. Hillary Duff decided that Disney was fit to be slapped around and promptly got drop-kicked off the studio lot. Now, despite any vocal talent, she's hocking tasty musical morsels with titles like "So Yesterday" on MTV's TRL. You see, reader, the post-modern 'tween scene is more than just chutzpah, adorability or even talent — it's pure business.

'Tweens of yore like Gary Coleman didn't understand the fundamental tenets of young celebrity and eventually burned their candles at both ends, got bamboozled by relatives and watched their stars descend in only a few years.

'Tweens today are wiser. They know that success and longevity require a savvy marketing plan. For proof, I cite the almighty examples of Mary Kate and Ashley Olsen — Millionaires before they could drive, these wily wunderkind, though in truth, lack any acting skills, dropped pint-sized pins all over the Hollywood star map after their debut on "Full House" with a series of straight-to-video romps, a low-budge clothing line and various other twinsploitation paraphernalia.

Now they're heading to college in the Big Apple, and something tells me the girls will be giving Mr. Trump a lesson in mogulship on the "Apprentice 2" if Don-o plays his cards right.

So, even though old fogies like me caught the 'tween wave too late, although I hear Urkle is looking for a post-grad valet, and with my fine resume and a little luck, I can work my way down to Duff.



BY VENESSA WONG

What place is there in this world where our every desire is fulfilled, where our repressed emotions are allowed free expression and the boundaries of impossibility are breached? For a majority of people, this occurs only in dreams. Every night when we go to sleep, our minds enter a realm of enigmatic story-making in which images are distorted and words and actions seem to drift about without sequence or consequence.

In ancient times especially, dreams were seen as inspirations of supernatural origin, divine messages from the gods and spirits that revealed truths about the past, present and future. Later on with Aristotle (particularly his work, "On Dreams"), dreams begin to be separated from the realm of the supernatural and connected with sense perception. Then in 1900, Sigmund Freud wrote "The Interpretation of Dreams" in which he called dreams the expression of unconscious, taboo wishes in a distorted form so that they appear acceptable to the values of consciousness. Dreams, according to Freud, are not a senseless rebus, but "a poetic phrase of the greatest beauty and significance."

SGA President Samuel Rodriguez '04 dreamt that he was smoking outside his father's office "when he was in fifth grade." When he tossed his cigarette, it landed under a bus spinning on one wheel, causing the bus to explode. All the victims were taken to his house, where one disfigured man told him in a religious language that he didn't need to worry because he was forgiven. "I felt guilty for the injuries smoking would inflict upon others and not my own health," said Rodriguez.

Courtney Matson '06 recently dreamt that she was a fugitive with the four children that she baby-sits. The youngest child was crying, so they fled from one place to another to avoid being caught. They bumped into a friend in an IMAX theater and he led them to a special room to hide. As the jingling of his jammed key started attracting attention, the door to the special room opened, but there were only more people inside. "I think it must have something to do with feeling like the outside world is after me and I cant escape it, but I have to take care of others as well."

Padma Govindan '05 last dreamt that she was scrambling eggs over a tiny stove in a rural locale. "An old-looking Al Pacino was trying to put his arms around me from behind in a sexual manner while I was cooking. It felt threatening, so I turned around and flung some scrambled eggs from my spatula into his face." The theme of a threatening man trying to hold her from behind is common in Govindan's dreams. "Perhaps this dream represents the fear that sexuality or romance might interfere with my ability to do my own work."

There are an infinite number of other symbols and events that may appear in one's sleep. The next time you remember a dream, it may be valuable to reflect upon it, and see what you are thinking without even realizing it.

Choi fuses chemistry and humanity

By Polly Johnson
Staff Writer

Vlad Lodoaba

Known for her colorful wardrobe and demanding workloads, Professor of Chemistry Sunhee Choi pauses from a discussion of the double helix.

At first glance, Professor of Chemistry Sunhee Choi does not fit one's image of a chemistry professor. Forget the white lab coat — her colorful wardrobe is as fashionable as her friendly and funny demeanor is endearing. Known for her rigorous chemistry courses, she is also teaching a first-year seminar, "Color in Science and Culture," combining her two loves, color and chemistry.

Choi's interest in chemistry began when she was 10 years old and living in Korea. At the time she was sure that she wanted to be a doctor. Inspired by Woodrow Wilson, Choi decided that in her pursuit of becoming a doctor she wanted to "make the world a better place."

Math and science never came easily to her, however, and throughout her schooling, and even now, she works extremely hard to understand it all. "In Korea, it was a hard life, and I needed something to enrich my spirit." Claiming she was a "total idealist" in high school, an avid reader and a lover of classical music, she turned to music, books and art to fulfill her creative and cultural needs. "Biographies of the Imaginative," a Winter Term class she taught in 1998, brought it full circle when she taught the works of her three role models — Beethoven, Chagall and Marie Curie.

While attending the Seoul National University of Korea, she was the only woman in the chemistry department. "Nobody ever encouraged me," she says, but she studied ardently in the library every weekend. In 1982, her hard work paid off when she received her Ph.D. from Princeton University. Afterwards, she worked as a research scientist at the Colgate-Palmolive Company, where she studied the developments of detergents for use in cold water — "Life was nice, but not very challenging," she says.

All this changed when Choi became a professor at the University of Vermont and her husband, Professor of Chemistry & Biochemistry James Larrabee, came to Middlebury College in 1986. Life became more challenging — she had to commute every day, she had a one-and-a-half-year old daughter and she was pregnant with her second child. She applied for a job as a visiting professor at Middlebury and continued teaching at UVM "until the day before [her] baby was born." Middlebury offered her a place as a professor, and she has continued to impress and inspire her students and colleagues ever since.

One of her primary focuses is her research, which she loves to share with undergraduate students. They "study how platinum anti-cancer drugs interact with DNA." Cyclist Lance Armstrong was cured of cancer with such drugs. In 1999, with a group of her students in tow, she went to Oxford University where they were awarded and internationally recognized for their research. Eighteen of her papers have been published, and many of them have included student collaboration.

Choi maintains a positive balance between her professional and her personal life. She learned to cook from her brother and her uncle while living in Seoul. She cooks not "just for the sake of eating, but for the sake of having good times with friends" as well. This even includes cooking for students, but only after establishing her excellent teaching ability does she invite them over for dinner, so not to become the "lousy teacher with a masters in culinary arts." She also keeps in great shape by running, hiking and gardening.

She cherishes both her roles in life, and especially loves to explore the connection between mother, teacher and learner. In a speech to her daughter's high school cum laude class, she said, "At school, my students say I am like their mother. Sometimes in a good sense, and sometimes in a not so good sense. At home, my children complain that I am like their teacher — not like a tender, loving mother."

Choi continued to inspire the crowd when she stated, "To me, beauty is imagination and creativity, another form of human character. All human beings want to know, want to create and want to be good. If you have a strong desire to know, you become a scholar. If you have strong desire to create or discover, you become an artist or a scientist. Whether you are a scholar, an artist or a scientist, the ultimate goal should be the improvement of humanity."

Choi's passion for her work and students make her an inspirational role model, and as she would say, a "pHun" person to know.

ISO launches symposium

By Aglaya Glebova
Assistant Features Editor

On March 8, the International Student Organization (ISO) kicked off its annual spring forum, which was dedicated this year to the subject of European Union expansion. The forum opened with a lecture delivered by Andrew Moravcsik, professor of government and director of the European Union Program at Harvard University.

Over the course of his talk, "Striking a New Transatlantic Bargain," Moravcsik identified the major obstacles affecting diplomatic relations between the European Union and the United States. In his conclusion he offered possible solutions to these problems.

The underlying transatlantic diplomacy trend, Moravcsik said, is that "it is harder to coin the peace than the war." He observed that the E.U.-U.S. relationship is "in somewhat of a crisis." "There are good reasons to think there is going to be more tension [and both sides must] learn what they have in common and what they don't," he continues.

The primary impediment to a harmonious transatlantic relationship, according to Moravcsik, is the war in Iraq. "Iraq was messed up. It diplomatically bobbled both sides, wasn't particularly well thought-through, and [had] intelligence problems," he said.

"The US, despite its power, is frustrated in the world today," Moravcsik noted. "It is grasping out for allies."

The only viable way to allay the diplomatic tension between the European Union and United States and hence for America to regain valuable allies, Moravcsik asserted, is for "a complementary division of labor" to occur, with Europe acting as the primary civilian power and the United States as the principal military force.

"My only hope is that [the transatlantic relationship] will be constructed on this basis — the only realistic basis," Moravcsik concluded. "In international politics, you get what you pay for."

UPCOMING ISO FORUM EVENTS

Wednesday, March 17, 4:30 p.m. — Robert A. Jones Conference Room
"New Europe"
Screening of a short educational documentary from the EU Media Center followed by a round-table discussion with Middlebury College professors.

Wednesday, April 1, 8 p.m. — Warner Hemicycle
Movie "Sunshine"
"An entertaining historical melodrama about the tribulations of a group of characters set against the backdrop of the century's most important historical events" — James Berardinelli, Reelviews

Wedneday, April 7, 4:30 p.m. — Robert A. Jones Conference Room
A lecture by Jacques Rupnik, director of research, CERI-Sciences-Po, Paris

WINNERS & LOSERS

WINNER: TIM THE TOOL MAN	LOSER: MARTHA STEWART
ADMITTEDLY A HAIR SEXIST, HE AND HIS JOLLY SIDEKICK, AL, HIT HOME IMPROVEMENT ON THE NAIL.	SHE-DEVIL OF DESIGN AND HAUGHTY HOMEMAKER HAS FINALLY BEEN HUNG OUT TO DRY JUST LIKE HER TOWELS
WINNER: SPRING BREAK	**LOSER: BREAK DOWNS**
YOU'VE HELD OUT FOR NEARLY FIVE WEEKS NOW. DON'T GET SUICIDAL ONLY 8 DAYS BEFORE "SPRING BREAK LOOSE"	PICTURE A BEACH, A PINA COLADA AND A LOUNGE CHAIR. TRY TO FORGET ABOUT THAT BROKEN PIGGY BANK
WINNER: FRUIT ROLLUPS	**LOSER: ROLLITOS**
NOW HERE'S A SNACK THAT WAS MADE TO ROLL AND PACK. WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THOSE MIDDLE SCHOOL SNACK DAYS OF YORE?	DORITOS' NEW GIMMICK — A ROLLED DORITO IN ALL THE ORIGINAL FLAVORS. A GIMMICK PURE AND SIMPLE

Rallying for right to choose

Largest pro-choice march in history slated for next month

By Lynn Gray
Staff Writer

Last Thursday afternoon a small group of female students, professors and locals gathered in Bicentennial Hall to hear Judy Murphy and Beth Tarallo representatives of the National Organization for Women, speak about plans for the largest pro-choice march in the history of women's rights.

On Sunday, April 25, this monumental rally will take place in Washington, D.C. to display support for a woman's right to legally choose abortion. The national march has been organized in response to the partial-birth abortion ban legislation being considered by the 108th Congress.

Murphy expressed specific concerns with the pending legislation. She pointed out that the bill makes no exceptions for

Murphy criticizes the Bush administration's elimination of government funding for abortion counseling.

the protection of a woman's life and health. Additionally, the bill does not contain gestational specifics, nor does it reaffirm the 30-year-old Roe vs. Wade ruling. Pro-choice organizations across the nation view the bill as the first step toward the complete abolition of abortion.

Murphy believes that our generation takes the right to choose for granted. She'd like to keep it that way, but also sees the need to raise awareness and activism regarding what she sees as the threat to a basic freedom — a woman's right to choose what happens to her body. "Most Americans don't realize how close we are to not having that liberty," Murphy stated.

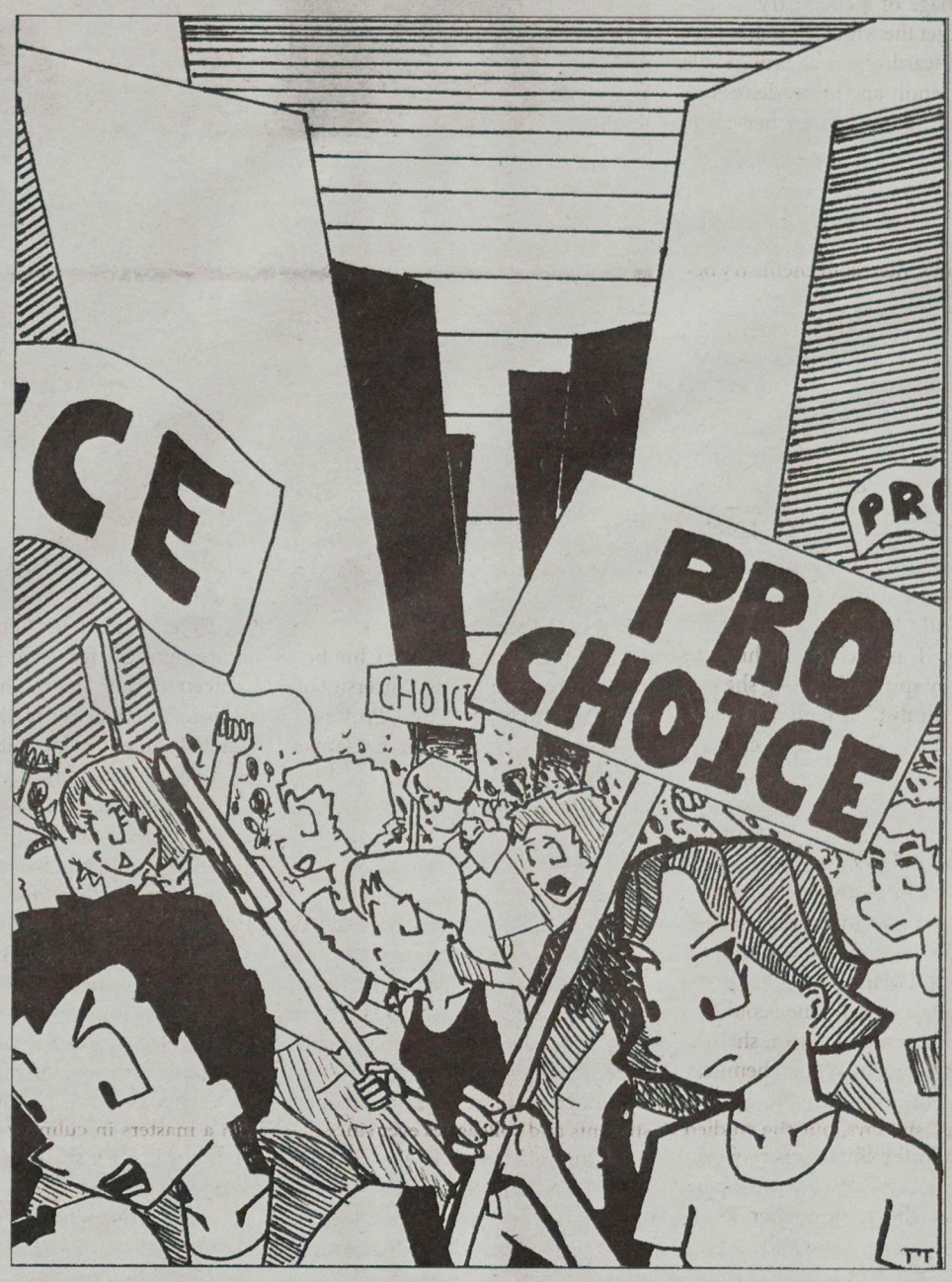
She criticized the Bush administration's removal of information about abortion from government websites, and the elimination of government funding for organizations that provide abortion counseling. Murphy's anger also comes from the administration's "fight against sex education that teaches anything other than abstinence." She is grateful that Vermont has three pro-choice members of congress in Washington.

Murphy remembers what it was like to live without the federal protection of abortions. While a senior in college, Murphy became pregnant. She didn't elaborate, but stressed the fact that she would have rather died than tell her parents. She said she allowed a strange man to drive her, in the middle of the night, to a lakeside shack in the middle of the Canadian wilderness to receive an illegal abortion.

To emphasize the extent of her desperation, she explained how her close friend had received an abortion from the same man a week earlier and was hemorrhaging in a hospital days later. Murphy escaped the abortion reproductively intact but has never forgotten the horror of the experience. She concluded by saying, "It is a war of terror to take away our freedom of choice."

In response to one student's comment regarding the lack of male involvement in the freedom of choice campaign, Tarallo of Planned Parenthood New England stated that men should be better represented and guarantees that many will be marching in April.

A male first-year later explained the reason why he is less engaged in the pro-choice movement. He said, "[Abortion] doesn't affect our bodies." Yet Tarallo begs to differ. She believes that pro-choice is about the right to privacy and control over one's sexual being.



Tarallo is excited about getting as many Middlebury students as possible on one of the seven buses scheduled to leave Vermont on the night of April 24.

A ride on one of these coach busses will cost students $50, but scholarship money is available on a first come, first served basis.

It is evident that many campus organizations as well as individual students are helping to build support for the Freedom to Choose march.

Most Americans don't realize how close we are to losing that liberty [the right to choose].

— Judy Murphy

Elizabeth Brookbank '04 is one of those individuals. She is co-president of Feminist Action at Middlebury and is currently working to increase awareness about the march. "I'm really excited about getting everyone possible involved," she said.

The website www.marchforchoice.org contains specifics regarding the time and location of the march, along with the rally to follow.

1965
Abortion banned in all 50 states, with some variation among states

1973
Roe vs. Wade: Supreme Court rules that a woman's right to abortion is protected by the 14th Amendment.

1978
National Organization for Women (NOW) organized over 100,000 people to march in Washington to extend the time limit on ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment.

1986
On March 9 the March for Women's Lives occurs, marking the largest march for women's rights in U.S. history. 125,000 people gathered in Washington, D.C. to keep abortion and birth control legal. There were a total of eight such marches for women's lives across the country in 1986.

1992
On April 5 the largest march and rally ever held in the nation's capital takes place. 750,000 people participate in a NOW-organized march in Washington, D.C.

—VENESSA WONG

Pro-life point of view

By Aglaya Glebova
Assistant Features Editor

While pro-choice organizations were busy raising awareness for the April 25 Freedom to Choose march on Washington, a small group of Middlebury students established Students for Life, a pro-life organization, in the beginning of February.

Co-founded by Molly Nora '06 and Maria Dickinson '07, Students for Life now has approximately 20 members on the mailing list, half of whom, according to Nora, have been regularly attending the group's 6 p.m. Monday dinner meetings at Proctor.

"There has never been a pro-life group on campus," Nora said. "It is an important issue, and it wasn't talked about. We [wanted to] reassure that there was support for women on campus." Members felt that "both sides of the [abortion] issue should be addressed," Ashley Timidaiski '07, Students for Life treasurer, said.

There has been a wide range of reactions to the Students for Life agenda since the group's establishment. Although some of the signs posted around the campus by the organization's members were torn down, "You'll find more people than you thought who have this view," Timadaiski said. "We even have quite a few male members, which is unusual."

Nora echoed the statement about involvement in abortion issues. "A lot of times it is viewed as a women's issue, but it really is not. It affects everybody. Everybody, regardless of whatever background [he or she] comes from, needs to be thinking about it. And we've seen that at the meetings — different backgrounds that people come from."

Danielle Barbeau '07, who describes herself as a pro-life feminist and does not belong to Students for Life, agreed that the pro-life movement needed more visibility on campus. "I don't think it is necessary to have a group, but I think people should speak out more, and a group could help them do that. It [Students for Life] is a good thing," she said.

Elizabeth Brookbank '04, co-president of Feminist Action at Middlebury, said, "[Middlebury] is a fairly liberal campus, and so most people are pro-choice. It [abortion] is an issue that people feel strongly about, and so many personal debates are bound to be heated, but I don't think it necessarily translates into a hostile environment for the organization."

Students for Life has been actively planning future events, including a discussion of the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision on April 5 and a screening and discussion of "The Cider House Rules" on April 19.

"We're aiming to foster discussion. Abortion is such an important issue," Sarah Jones '07, secretary of Students for Life, observed. Also in the works is a website that would allow women to "confidentially access important information," Nora said.

Meanwhile, Students for Life members have been educating themselves about both sides of the issue. "We have been trying to be informed about what the pro-choice argument is — a bunch of us went down to the National Organization for Women [meeting in support for "Freedom to Choose" march]," Nora said.

Jones concluded, emphasizing the need for a dialogue on the issue of abortion, "It is an issue that touches our daily lives as college students. It is something that needs to be actively discussed."

arts

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FLUTE ENSEMBLE
ANCIENT LEGENDS LIVE ON THROUGH SONG

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THE FAMILY BAND
ROBERT RANDOLPH GIVES AUDIENCE A 'WHOLE LOTTA LOVE'

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KING, FLEISHMAN AND BARBER TELL BITTERSWEET TALE

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JOHNSON SYMPOSIUM
A SMORGASBORD FOR ART LOVERS

Fula flutes celebrate tribal traditions

By Rebecca Browngoehl
Staff Writer

On Saturday night in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall, six men emerged on stage in tribal African robes and engaged the audience with music from the Fulani people of West Africa. The concert was the culminating event of the African Immersion series that took place on the Middlebury College campus during the month of February.

About 100 community members, including Middlebury students and faculty, enjoyed an hour of distinctive Fulani melodies, which derive from the nomadic cattle and goat herder tribe that occupies parts of Guinea, Senegal and Gambia. The flute, an instrument associated with these tribes, has been a part of their tribal traditions and entertainment for hundreds of years.

Because this tribe is credited with spreading Islam throughout West Africa, it is no surprise that the flute's light weight and simple construction made it a favorite traveling companion. The members of the Fula ensemble effortlessly performed a diversity of sounds on a solitary wooden flute.

Before the performers entered, their instruments rested on stage, and audience members were intrigued by the uniqueness of their form and appearance. The Kora, which faintly resembles a harp with a cylindrical neck and a large cow skin covering, was perhaps the most interesting instrument. The general shape is reminiscent of an overgrown guitar, but with an addition of 20 or so extra strings.

Vlad Lodoaba

The Fula Ensemble's performance last Saturday at the Center for the Arts marked the finale of Middlebury's African Immersion Series.

The Kora, which faintly resembles a harp with a cylindrical neck and large cow skin covering, was perhaps the most interesting instrument.

The Kora is a fairly modern instrument that sounds like a combination between a lute, harp and guitar. Because of the instrument's unique shape, the audience was unable to see the musician plucking on the strings. The musician simply sat behind the instrument motionless while a cascade of song flowed from the stage.

The other remarkable instrument was the Tambin, a classic wooden flute that combines typical flute sounds with human vocal interjections. The audience was in for quite surprise when one of the flutists began producing noises into his flute that sounded like a mixture of guttural yelping and jazzy blues singing.

The balafon, an elongated xylophone, was played with such zest and ease it was often impossible to see the individual strokes of the mallets as they careened up and down the instrument.

Several pieces were accompanied by stories illustrating Africa's rich cultural past and promising future. The Duga, a song about the vulture — a bird of immense power in ancient African legends — was written in homage to a powerful tribe. The slow crescendo of a single flute culminating in all four instruments and human voice demonstrated the power and vivacity of Fulani harmony and heritage.

Later in the performance, the group dedicated an original piece to a young woman who had passed away in an untimely fashion. The song's soulful music was coupled with melancholy movements as the men on stage bobbed and swayed in rhythm. A third song, dedicated to bull-headed and fierce African dictator who was respected by his tribe for his opposition to French colonizers, demonstrated the understanding of the musicians for their collective history. During this piece, the lead singer danced on stage, approaching each musician and urging him to play his instrument with more soul.

The guttural shouts of the flutist as he blew hot air through his instrument and called out simultaneously to the audience brought the tumult and emotion of Africa's past into today's world.

Having released its first CD only two years ago, the Fula Flute ensemble has enjoyed much success. Led by Sylvian Leroux, a French-Canadian with West African roots, the band charmed the audience, touching those present through song.

The 60-year-old man who sat two seats in front of me bopped his head and tapped his foot on the floor for the duration of the show. He turned to me with his purple and red felt hat and exclaimed, "Can you believe these guys — they really know how to play!" And neither I nor anyone who sat in the concert hall that night, immersed as we were in the tribal rhythms, could argue with that.

Vlad Lodoaba

Dressed in tribal robes, the Fula performed songs on a variety of African instruments including the Tambin, a classic wooden flute.

Vlad Lodoaba

A capacity crowd engulfs McCullough during Friday night's performance by Robert Randolph and the Family Band.

Randolph keeps it real

By Mike Deni
Staff Writer

When Robert Randolph, the "Fitty Cent" of lap-steel guitarists, took the stage last Friday at the MCAB-sponsored Robert Randolph and the Family Band concert, you knew you were witnessing a unique performance. The completeness of Randolph's appeal, as a musician and performer, was evident from the start. He's humble, good looking, plays every instrument known to man, professes love and faith, has fun on stage and enjoys great camaraderie with his bandmates.

As the night wore on and the covers piled one atop the other (and the band hit the chorus of "Ghost Busters" for the 15th time), I looked around at my fellow students, jumping and bouncing and thought, "So he doesn't have hair that grows over his eyes. So he doesn't sing songs about hating himself and isn't wrought with confusion about the nature of existence. So he just said, 'We need more love.' You know what? I can dig it. I can ride this groove train. Straight into the morning. Love. Faith. How can you mock such things, especially when Randolph plays reminiscent of such greats as Jimi Hendrix and Jimmy Page?"

One thing cannot be denied — every band member, even the creepy keyboard player who did eventually crack a smile, was an incredible musician, bursting with energy and a love for music.

For the grand finale, they performed the most mind-blowing, relentlessly awe-inspiring band rotation I have seen to date. I came away with the impression that the lap-steel guitar plays itself, because every member of the band (except the aforementioned keyboardist) wailed so expertly that you began to doubt Randolph's prominence.

Then, of course, when he got out from behind the drums, which he was playing with so much feeling I think I even screamed out, "Go love," he reaffirmed his place as a god among men.

The way he let the chords hold as he bent them sumptuously and articulated his solos — one moment he sounded like Michael Jackson screaming, "Ow!," and the next moment like Jimi Hendrix, all the while contorting his face.

My only critique is that I left with the feeling that I had seen a "tribute to Robert Randolph's favorite songs" concert. Although such hits as "Axel F," "Isn't she Lovely," and "Whole Lotta Love" are fun, I guess I'm not a huge fan of people playing vocal lines on guitars. It reminds me of high school band concerts.

Of course, this particular band happened to be comprised of musical prodigies, not high-schoolers, but I could have done with a little more Family Band and a little less "Greatest Hits from the 70s and 80s." Randolph's vocals were right on and inspired, but did not reach the heights of his guitar playing. I get chills up my neck and swoon when music is really good, and the ratings go as follows (scale from 3-9).

Randolph's soloing: 8
Randolph's facial expressions: 9
Bassist's facial expressions: 140
Randolph's singing: 4

The love and faith clouding the room like a new species of benign locust: 9

The chemical reaction that Randolph initiated in the brain of Middlebury students, making them want to crowd-surf: 9

The energy of the band was the best part of the evening. The gaping mouths, the un-exhibitionist elated kicks and hopping around the stage. It was all real and honest and great to watch.

These guys really deserve the recognition they're getting. They're not pretentious, they're having fun and they're damn good at it.

We'll see if their fame grows. Perhaps the next time we see Randolph he'll have grown his hair down over his face and will be wearing tight, used clothing and singing about the hell that festers inside his faithless soul.

Until then, enjoy musical intensity and dexterity that has been sorely missing in all of our lives.

Any mockery present in this review is compensation for the fact that I wasn't born as musically talented as the grime under Randolph's pinky nail.

Vlad Lodoaba

The man himself, Robert Randolph, takes a turn at the keyboard.

BLOWIN' INDIE WIND

BY ERIKA MERCER

THE ARTIST | THE NEW PORNOGRAPHERS
THE ALBUM | ELECTRIC VERSION
RELEASE DATE | MAY 6, 2003

FEATURED ON WRMC'S "ALBUM OF THE WEEK" THIS SUNDAY AT 9 P.M.

Carl Newman knew he wanted to be the "new somethings." The New Pornographers, he claims, "had a good ring to it."

It wasn't meant to be offensive. But luckily it was. I mean, all those innocent media whores were out there, thinking they were making good pop music, and along came a hodgepodge group of indie artists from Vancouver who with, oh, nothing more than a low-budget side project called "Mass Romantic," swept the word 'pop' off its feet.

Not only had they created 11 songs full of flawless hooks and infectious melodies, but they had found the secret entrance into mass culture — well, at least Canadian mass culture, which granted them a Juno Award (the equivalent of the U.S. Grammy) for Best Alternative Album. And now, three years later, they've done it again, producing an album, "Electric Version," that has crossed the border and found its way into countless American CD players.

The New Pornographers began as Zumpano frontman Newman's brainchild in 1996 and took shape the following year when he recruited various local artists and friends to collaborate on the project. Today, the group consists of Newman (vocals and guitar), Destroyer frontman Dan Bejar (vocal and guitar), alt-country solo artist Neko Case (vocals), Kurt Dahle (drums), John Collins (bass), Blaine Thurier (keyboards) and Todd Fancey (various instruments).

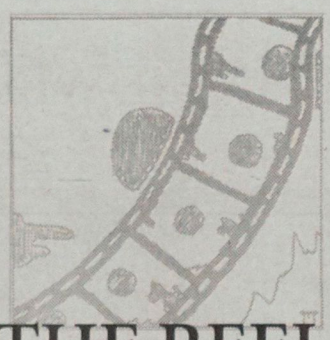
Influenced mainly by 70s progressive rock, 80s power-pop and new wave, the group's two albums showcase each of the artists talents, alternating vocals within songs and using everything from hand-claps to organs to produce their unique sound.

The New Pornographers have created a new brand of pornography. This is mischievous music, but not in the way you might expect. The shock value is hidden in riddled puns, sly witticisms and facetious jabs. For instance, they sass Bob Dylan in the line, "Baby, think twice, maybe it's not all, maybe it's not alright," found buried in the album's ninth track, "Testament To Youth In Verse."

They tease and toy with Wittgenstein in the line, "Now wipe that look from your face, the world is that which is the case," in the sixth song, "Chump Change." Not to mention that the same song begins with Dejar's nasally male voice singing, "I stole a page from your book and a line from your page, and flew into a lesbian rage," and ends with the line, "There is you and then there is your body." So the mind and the body are not one, and yet The New Pornographers have managed to combine philosophy and sex into one song.

And then there's the album's fourth song, "The End of Medicine," which effortlessly weaves drugs and decorum into one sentence: "...are we facing the end of all, of all the drugs we're lacing with common sense and courtesy and other things we thought would be the end of us, but now they won't allow us our intentions," showing us, paradoxically maybe, that they are both what hold us back.

This playfulness in the lyrics, along with the raw energy and quirky personality of the music, is what will have you coming back for more. The New Pornographers have tapped into the thirst of our minds and the hunger of our bodies and produced an album that satisfies both.



THE REEL CRITIC

BY AARON STRUMWASSER

MOVIE | BOB ROBERTS
DIRECTOR | TIM ROBBINS
STARRING | TIM ROBBINS

If you are delusional and attempting to dominate an endangered subculture, you might qualify as a character in a film by Christopher Guest, who has himself come to dominate the subgenre of the mockumentary.

"This Is Spinal Tap" and "Waiting for Guffman" are consistently funny — albeit at the expense of the characters — but his two latest efforts, "Best in Show" and "A Mighty Wind" reveal Guest's habit of letting his actors become self-indulgently spontaneous. Guest has admitted that he does not bother to script his movies, and it shows.

A mockumentary depends on satire, but "A Mighty Wind" plays like an inside joke between Guest and "This is Spinal Tap" groupies, taking ninety minutes of our time to answer, "What if the guys from Spinal Tap were folk singers?"

We laughed at the band members of Spinal Tap because the absurdity of their music was impossible to ignore, but the music featured in "A Might Wind" is disturbingly tolerable.

If vapid musical performances are of such comedic value, then why not watch MTV, which, like Guest's characters, is oblivious of its own mindlessness? That the real-live people on MTV at least take their trash seriously is more hilarious than anything in "A Mighty Wind."

Just over a decade ago, Tim Robbins, directing and starring in "Bob Roberts," perfected the mockumentary. While actors who voice their political opinions often come across as ill informed megalomaniacs (i.e., Sean Penn, who thinks he can buy an ambassadorship), Robbins executes his agenda by doing what he knows best — making a movie.

The target of his satire is the Republican Party, and the story is that of Bob Roberts, a man who uses catchy, Reaganomics-inspired folk songs as a platform for his senatorial campaign.

Robbins's gags are both humorous and relevant to his film, and by the end of it you realize that its scenario is no less plausible now than it was at the time of its release.

At one point, in fact, Roberts is accused by a reporter of wartime profiteering — an eerie link to the recent Dick Cheney controversy.

For a mockumentary whose laughs come at the expense of its subject as well as its characters, I move to impeach Christopher Guest and vote Tim Robbins president of the mockumentary.

Look for Jack Black in a memorable minor role as one of Roberts's followers, and for Gore Vidal as a straight-arrow politician victimized by Roberts's underhanded advertising tactics.

Songs recite 'The Last 5 Years'

By May S. Chan
Staff Writer

The harmonious voices of Erin King '04 and Ian Fleishman '06 filled the Center for the Arts concert hall last Friday night. Jason Robert Brown's moving recital, "The Last 5 Years," led the audience to erupt in applause as King and Fleishman belted out notes, accompanied by pianist Mark Barber '06.

"The Last 5 Years," featuring King as soprano and Fleishman as tenor, told a story based on the composer's experiences.

King and Fleishman took on the roles of two people caught in a failed marriage. Their solo performances paralleled each other. King, who played the wife, Cathy Hiatt, began her story in the present and traveled back to the time when they first met, whereas Fleishman, who played the husband, Jamie Wellerstein, started at the first meeting and finished in the present.

Brown's recital opened off-Broadway in 2001, and despite its short-lived run, was included in *Time* magazine's "10 Best of 2001." In addition, it has received a Drama Desk Award for Best Music and Lyrics, and Brown has been called "the savior of Broadway."

The performance was directed by Douglas Anderson, a member of the Middlebury College faculty, who has taught on theater faculties for 14 years and worked on Guiding Light, Square One TV, 3-2-1 Contact and other productions as a full-time writer and director.

Barber, a film and media culture major, has been playing the piano for 14 years. Fleishman, a German, French and music major, enjoyed working on this project despite his lack of interest in musical theater, and King, a psychology major, has taken part in many musical productions and was thoroughly excited about working on this one.

Under Anderson's direction, King, Fleishman and Barber garnered much praise from the audience. They complemented one another well, creating a bittersweet tale wrought with emotion. Removing her clasped hands from her face and conveying pain in her eyes as she bitterly twisted a ring off her finger, King evoked audience sympathy at the very beginnning of the recital.

Her sweet voice was perfectly pitched alongside Fleishman's strong and smooth one. Meanwhile, Barber, at full concentration, hardly missed a beat as his fingers glided over the keys. The music echoed lightly, tinged with a note of sadness.

They performed 16 songs in total, their actions and voices intermingling to successfully adapt this sad yet comical story of love gone wrong. The crowd quickly took to Fleishman's charismatic representation of his character, Jamie, while his comments and gestures elicited many chuckles.

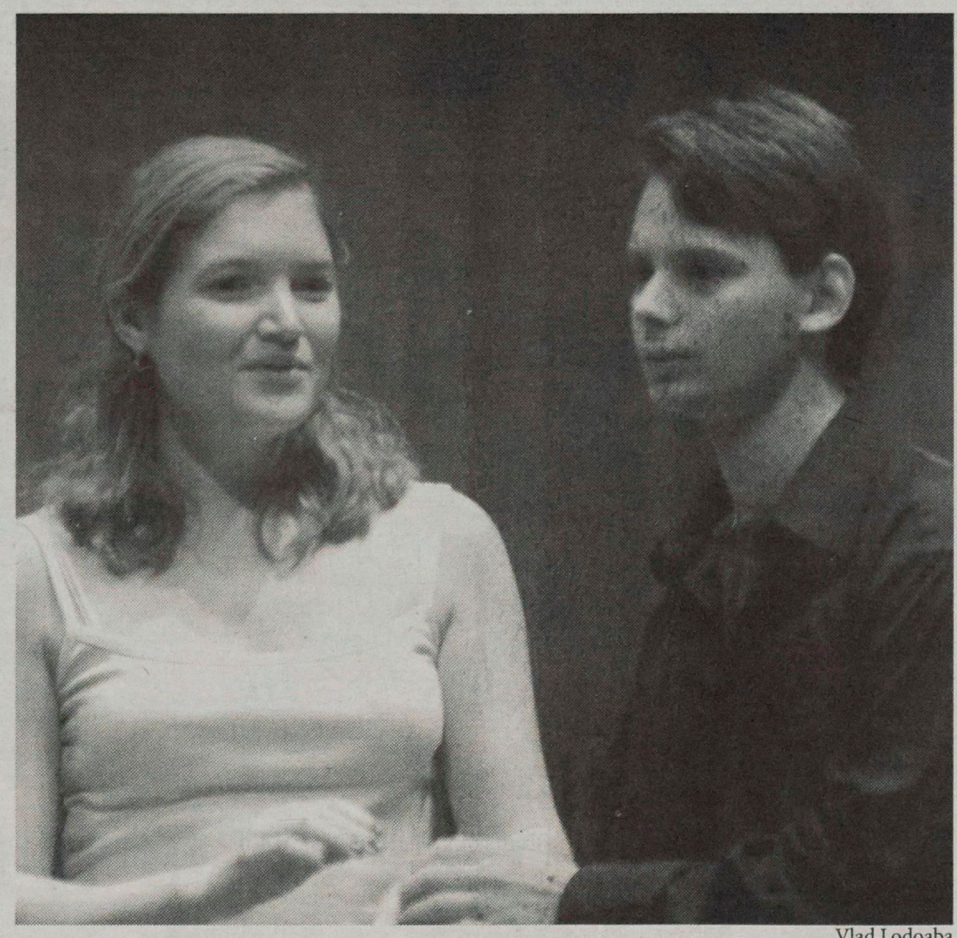
The songs of Cathy and Jamie contrasted each other. They were performed one after the other, synchronized by Barber's melodious notes.

The audience was hooked by the music, which varied from catchy, upbeat songs such as "Moving Too Fast," performed exuberantly by Fleishman, to angry and sad songs, such as "See I'm Smiling" and "Part of That," peformed by King. The notes flying from Barber's fingers in the background complemented her strong voice.

King's dazzling smile and Fleishman's dancing won over the audience. Their passion ignited the stage as they clasped hands and stared into each other's eyes.

In the closing scene, Fleishman and King countered each other, allowing their voices to overlap and their emotions to pour out. The audience grew silent, swept away by the finale.

Then, the concert hall exploded with applause, which continued long after the singers took their leave.



Vlad Lodoaba

Erin King '04 and Ian Fleishman '06 deliver a moving performance about a failed marriage.

Pianist Fanning finds the keys to success

By Hans Manzke
Staff Writer

Diana Fanning's Sunday afternoon recital sparkled with sonic enunciation and technical prowess. The Middlebury College piano teacher exhibited virtuosic abilities and scrupulous attention to detail. After years of extensive touring in the United States and abroad in London, Paris, Geneva, Amsterdam and Munich, Fanning has developed her own conscientious, unwavering style, at once paying homage to and reworking the masters. Her renditions of Beethoven, Brahms and Schubert were punctuated by a tremendous performance of Monica Houghton's 1998 "Sonata," the sole modern work on the concert bill.

The level that a successful concert pianist, or any professional solo artist for that matter, must maintain is astonishing. It is always striking and impressive to see someone who has the ability to memorize and internalize both the basic tonal and dynamic aspects of a piece, as well as its slightest nuances over tens of thousands of notes and figures.

Fanning has performed with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, the Rugierri Chamber Soloists, the Davydov-Fanning Duo and as a soloist with the Takacs String Quartet. Taught by Ruth Geiger of New York, she also attended the Conservatoire National de Paris. While her resumé speaks for itself, Fanning's true strength lies in her ease and grace.

Fanning began her program with Beethoven's "Eight Variations in 'Une fièvre brulante,'" a perfect choice considering the piece accords well with her individual playing style. The audience immediately warmed up to her playful, expressionistic interpretation.

Her renditions of Beethoven, Brahms and Schubert were capped by a tremendous performance of Monica Houghton's 1998 "Sonata," the sole modern work on the bill.

Juxtaposed perfectly with the Beethoven was a collection of Brahms Intermezzos, which were more methodical. Here, Fanning exhibited the ability to perform a fundamentally different piece with the same level of passion and accuracy. One is immediately taken with the narrative quality of this selection of Brahms' work — there exists a clearly defined rising action, a transcendental climax and a more or less calming denouement. The apogee occurred in the Intermezzo in E-flat minor, which strides forth in thunderous chords and an emergent melody.

Following the Brahms selections, Fanning performed "Sonata" by Monica Houghton, a piece written with Fanning in mind. The two are good friends, and wonderful music is one product of this fruitful relationship. A bracingly post-modern work that showcased Fanning's natural ability, "Sonata" is characterized by its composer as "tonal music, written in a neo-classical style." Produced in 1998, Houghton's composition was a logical step away from the Beethoven starter, providing another degree of separation from the delightful, uncomplicated satisfaction of the concert opener.

Houghton's piece is searching and gives the listener the distinct impression of going somewhere. Melodies, harmonies and figures are repeated, compounded and synthesized. Again, Fanning performed this selection with astonishing precision and ardent expression.

It's good to know that there are classical performers providing audiences with a concise, refreshing outlook on themes interpreted countless times since the music's original composition.

Symposium stretches horizons

Albert Bitici

Participants in this year's Johnson Symposium congregate in Bicentennial Hall.

By Joyce Man
Staff Writer

"Our Symposium even attracts visitors from Montreal," Associate Professor of History of Art and Architecture Pieter Broucke told me over lunch this past Saturday at Middlebury College's sixth annual Christian A. Johnson Symposium. "So you see, we are an international event."

Broucke's offhand joke was true. We live in a small residential college, but Saturday's eight talks, on topics ranging from prehistoric southern China to modern Vermont, demonstrated an international reach.

This year's symposium was entitled "Treasures Gathered Here: Works of Art and Architecture at Middlebury." The idea to hold an event for art discussion first materialized in 1998 on the 400th anniversary of the birth of the Baroque Italian artist Gianlorenzo Bernini who, like the symposium itself, possessed multiple artistic interests.

Imparting fresh ideas and provoking deep discussion, it has continued to attract a devoted crowd that includes art students, town citizens and visitors from Québec.

Those who journeyed from Montreal must have felt the day's content worthy of a three-hour drive.

The symposium's smorgasbord of topics read like a wish list for any art enthusiast. Visiting Assistant Professor of History of Art and Architecture Nina Rowe reflected on Christian devotion in a 14th century French diptych etching, Associate Director of the Museum of Art Emmie Donadio revealed Middlebury's own tumultuous confrontation with Vito Acconci's controversial "plop art" and Charles A. Dana Professor of History of Art and Architecture Kirsten Hoving looked at Julia Margaret Cameron's representation of the traditional "everyman" figure, King Arthur.

The free-roaming attitude was exemplified by Curator of Asian Art Colin MacKenzie's talk, "Two Ritual Vessels," in which he discussed porcelain and bronze pieces from Shandong province and southern China.

Broucke's own search for photographic documentation of the Acropolis in Athens unexpectedly led him to a small Vermont antique store. Said Broucke, "Surprisingly, out of all the photos found in museums, this one was most valuable."

Broucke agrees that the symposium affords freedom for speakers to roam to the periphery of their expertise. "For a short period every year, I have this opportunity to go beyond my usual concentration."

"As an art history professor," he continued, "I don't focus on photographic documentation, but the Johnson Symposium allows me to explore the outer reaches of what I usually do," he said.

The symposium was a real eye-opener for the audience, especially when it came to the artwork in Middlebury's environs. For anyone who has ever ogled the eerie black metallic octahedral structure outside Bicentennial Hall, let the record show that it is indeed a piece of artwork, entitled "Smog."

In a feeble attempt at appreciation, many students have tried to attribute a function to it. I was told it was a hydraulic chime generating energy for the science department.

On the contrary, this "rigid piece resembling the elemental carbon crystal structure" led to artist Tony Smith's great acclaim as "a pioneering American artist."

Despite its diversity of subject matter, the symposium lacked representatives from the student body and faculty from departments other than the Department of the History of Art and Architecture.

Reflecting on previous years, Broucke noted the contrast. "In the past we had the added perspective from students showing their theses and professors from the Sociology and Anthropology departments. Unfortunately, this year the topic on art in Middlebury could not coincide with what they were focusing on."

Still, the symposium proved a great success. As the audience broke for lunch in Bicentennial Hall, there was no question that the day's program had generated discussion.

For example, Rowe's reference to French religious artifacts led to criticism of Mel Gibson's recent film "The Passion of Christ" and Director of the Museum of Art Richard Saunders' "Why Art Treasures Matter" led to tough opinions on the necessity of art in education.

is it art?

A LOOK AT THOSE WHO DARE TO STRETCH THE CREATIVE LIMITS

Sesame Street's Bert peeks over the shoulder of Osama Bin Laden. President Bush hugs Tony Blair while wrapped in an American flag. Britney Spears has a really big belly.

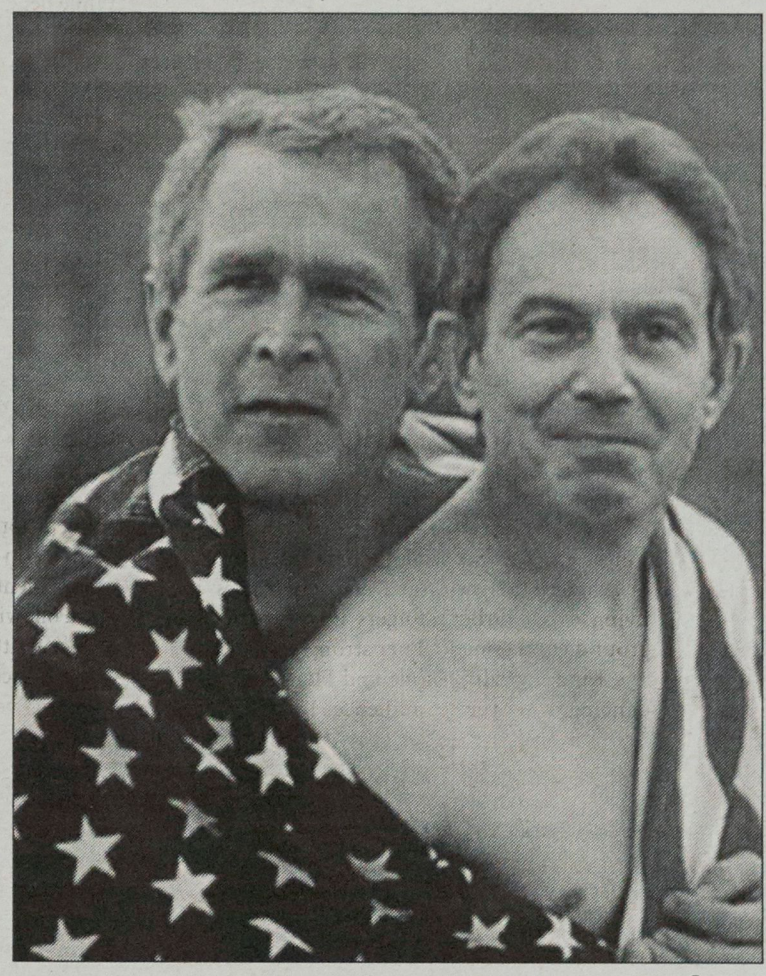
Although these images obviously aren't authentic, I'm sure you've seen similar ones. Doctored images are the result of applying digital imaging techniques to photography. As digital cameras and imaging software flood the consumer market, the pastime/emerging art form of digital photo manipulation has taken off. Deriving its name from the software program AdobePhotoshop, photoshopping has achieved status as a vehicle for satire. Many consider it to be a new and hot creative art form.

From its beginnings in the middle of the 19th century, photography has drawn criticism for its revolutionary impact on our mode of perception. The rise of photography as an artform transformed art's traditional function of portraying reality. First, photography was considered too literal — to mimetic — to be identified as art. Then it became controversial when photographers began retouching, enlarging and staging photos. Constructed images violated the viewer's belief in photographic veracity. The conflict between reality and how that reality is captured generated the question, "Do photographs show how things are or how the photographer wants them to be?"

More than a century later, photographs continue to stretch the limitations of reality and illusion. Photoshopped images prove wildly entertaining. Graphic designers have established themselves in the popular imagination and lightened the images of photojournalism into visual puns and witty political statements. The possibilities of such creative compositions are infinite. Felines with tortoiseshells. *Homo Sapiens* giving birth to tigers. New movie posters like "The Buttertoll Effect," featuring Tom ER, who has a large cavity in his heart where he stores his love for Rosie O'Donnell. Nasty cereal brands like Dorm flakes.

Photoshopping is an extremely effective way to make an astute observation or just make people laugh. But be careful! You don't want to end up like the notorious *Los Angeles Times* photographer who compiled a photograph to make it look *better*!

— CHRIS GROSSO, ARTS EDITOR



Courtesy

Photoshopping naturally lends itself to satire of all forms.

LITERARY PICKS

BY EDWARD PICKERING

TITLE
THE REMAINS OF THE DAY
AUTHOR
KAZUO ISHIGURO
PUBLICATION DATE
1988

Kazuo Ishiguro's 1988 Booker Prize winning novel, "The Remains of the Day," has excelled most its fellow awardees in terms of books sales and lasting popularity. Few novels of the last twenty years can compare with Ishiguro's gripping portrait of an aging English butler.

Granted a vacation by Darlington Hall's new American owner, Stevens, the novel's first person narrator, embarks on a short driving tour to the southwest of England. The farther Stevens travels from Darlington Hall, the estate to which he dedicated more than 30 years of his life, the further he delves into the past. He looks back on a life of exemplary professional conduct but troubling personal decisions. Stevens begins to question his unwavering allegiance to Lord Darlington, a man whose character he had never before doubted.

You have to read Stevens to believe him. Stoical, fastidious and self-effacing, Stevens sacrifices his personal life in the pursuit of professionalism. He is the perfect English butler, at times more an automaton than a man of flesh, blood and feeling. Stevens' regimented speech mirrors his behavior. Consider the words with which he addresses his elderly father, whose own career as a butler is winding down:

"Very well. Since you wish me to be brief, I will do my best to comply. The fact is, Father has become increasingly infirm. So much so that even the duties of an under-butler are now beyond his capabilities. His lordship is of the view, as indeed I am myself, that while Father is allowed to continue with his present round of duties, he represents an ever-present threat to the smooth running of this household."

Stevens' emotional coldness is incredibly disturbing. In his pursuit of an elusive idealized "dignity" he blinds himself to the flaws of Lord Darlington, a Nazi sympathizer if not flat-out Nazi puppet, and harshly thwarts the advances Miss Kenton, the housekeeper who loves him. On the night his father has a stroke, Stevens refuses to leave the Lord and his Lord's company for more than a few moments. All external considerations sink beside his overriding loyalty to the man he serves.

Stevens had always assured himself that by serving Lord Darlington, whom he considered a great man, he was serving all mankind. Now, as he nears the end of his career, Stevens begins to question that fundamental assumption.

"The Remains of the Day" is an extremely cruel but beautiful novel.

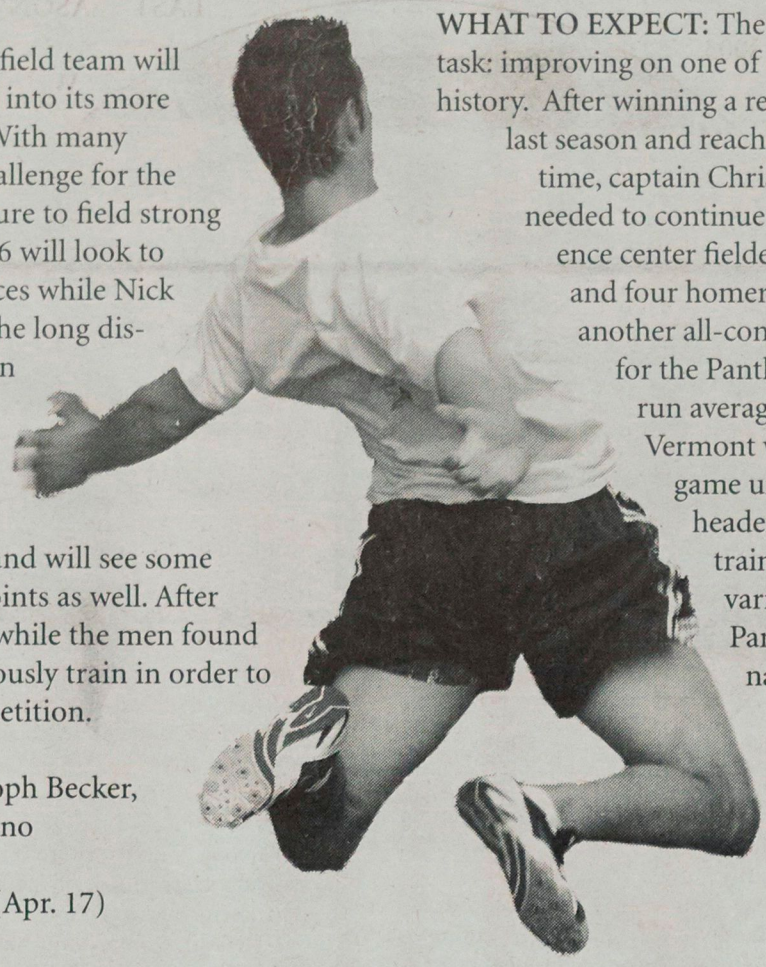
TRACK & FIELD

COACH: Martin Beatty
CAPTAINS: Maryanne Porter '04, Jess Kosciewicz '04, Margery Glover '04, Tony Garofano '04, Craig Pittman '04
NESCAC FINISH: Women — fourth, Men — seventh

WHAT TO EXPECT: The Panther track and field team will look to carry the success of the indoor season into its more competitive and intense outdoor campaign. With many returning standouts, Middlebury hopes to challenge for the NESCAC title this spring. The Panthers are sure to field strong competitors across the board. Kevin Bright '06 will look to continue his dominance in the middle distances while Nick Digani '05 and Matt Horesta '06 will lead in the long distance events. Kristoph Becker '06 will also earn points for the Panther men in the decathlon and all-around events. The women will be led by Maryanne Porter ' 04 in the middle distances,
Megan Gambino '06 in the longer distances, and will see some fresh faces from the first-year class earning points as well. After the women ended up fourth in the NESCAC while the men found themselves in seventh, both squads will vigorously train in order to move into the highest level of NESCAC competition.

ATHLETES TO WATCH: Kevin Bright, Kristoph Becker, Nick Digani, Maryanne Porter, Megan Gambino

IMPORTANT GAMES: Panther Invitational (Apr. 17)



SOFTBALL

COACH: Diane Boettcher
CAPTAIN: Christina Freyer '04
LAST SEASON'S RECORD: 17-14

WHAT TO EXPECT: The Middlebury softball team faces a difficult task: improving on one of the most successful seasons in the team's short history. After winning a record number of games (17, six in NESCAC) last season and reaching the NESCAC tournament for the first time, captain Christina Freyer '04 will provide the leadership needed to continue the success. Freyer, a first-team all-conference center fielder, led the team with a .433 batting average and four homeruns last season. Junior Megan McCarthy, another all-conference selection, was the dominant pitcher for the Panthers, leading the team in strikeouts, earned run average and innings pitched. Because of the volatile Vermont weather the team will not have its first home game until April 10 versus Wesleyan in a double header. The team will open with its annual spring training trip to Florida where the women will play various teams including Colby, who handed the Panthers one of their losses in the double elimination NESCAC tournament last year.

PLAYERS TO WATCH: Christina Freyer, Megan McCarthy.

IMPORTANT GAMES: Colby (Mar. 23) and Norwich (Apr. 28)

MEN'S LACROSSE

COACH: Erin Quinn
CAPTAINS: Greg Bastis '04, John West '04, Eric Krieger '04
LAST SEASON'S RECORD: 17-2

WHAT TO EXPECT: The men's lacrosse team will be fielding an extremely balanced, experienced and deep squad for the 2004 campaign. The Panthers lost only six seniors to graduation after their 2003 national title run, and still retains the team's top goal scorers up front with Charley Howe '04 and Mike Saraceni '04, one of the best midfielders in the nation Greg Bastis '04, and the outstanding defensive core of potential all-Americans in Ed Brown '05, John West '04 and goalie Eric Krieger '04. With a stingy defense and prolific offense the Panthers look to the X to improve the team this year. Middlebury lacks a dominant player to put on face-offs after the graduation of Brian McGregor '03 and will take them by committee. Andrew Giordano '04 is poised to take the most face-offs this year, but will be supported by Dave Leach '05, Jamie Duke '05, Mike Murray '05 and first-year Pete Mellen. Middlebury's season-opener on March 13 against Colby College will greatly test this facet of the Panthers' game as the White Mules return one of the better face-off players in the NESCAC. As a consequence of having a roster full of experienced athletes, Middlebury's starting line-ups have not been completely set going into the first match-up, and returning starters as well as upperclassmen reserves and first-years will all likely see the field.

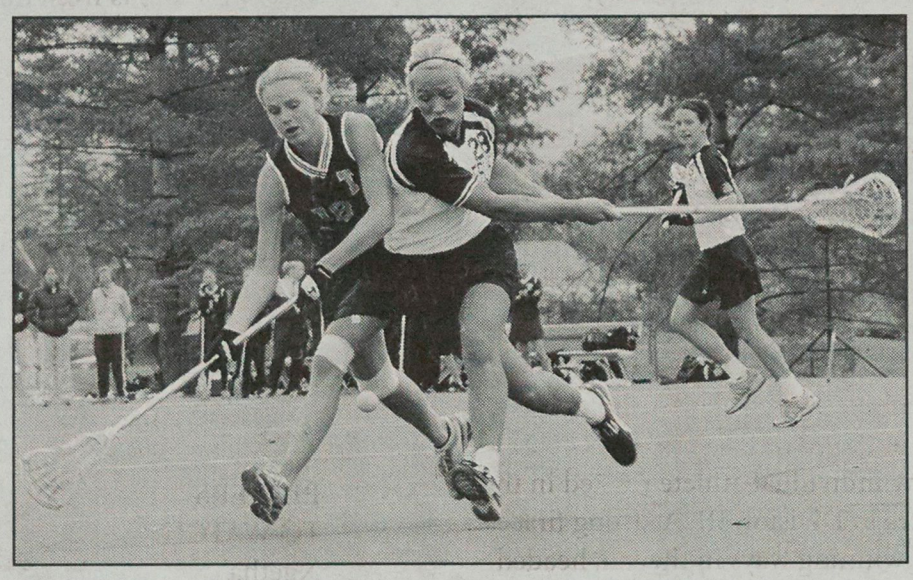
PLAYERS TO WATCH: Charley Howe, Mike Saraceni, Andrew Giordano, Ed Brown and Eric Krieger.

IMPORTANT GAMES: at Gettysburg (Mar. 24) and at Bowdoin (April); Williams (April 28)

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

COACH: Missy Foote
CAPTAINS: Becca Brakeley '04
LAST SEASON'S RECORD: 16-1

WHAT TO EXPECT: Women's lacrosse Head Coach Missy Foote is excited about the upcoming season and the challenges her team will face. The team boasts a veteran defense with senior co-captain and the nation's leading GAA average Sarah Grenert in goal, 2003 NESCAC rookie of the year with Elizabeth Renehan '06, senior co-captain Becca Brakeley, Caitlin McCormic '05 and the 2001 rookie of the year and co-captain in Nuala O'Donohoe '04. Middlebury may face some adversity on offense after graduating its top four scorers. With O'Donohoe in the midfield the team looks to build off her leadership and skill to set the tone on offense, but the Panthers will need first-years Claire Edelen, Liza Humes and Natalie Shettle to step up their play to help counter the squad's loss in veteran scoring. The Middlebury women open their season this weekend in Waterville, Maine against Colby College. The team appears ready to roll after two weekends of scrimmages, one in which the Panthers only allowed three goals in a 100 minutes of play.



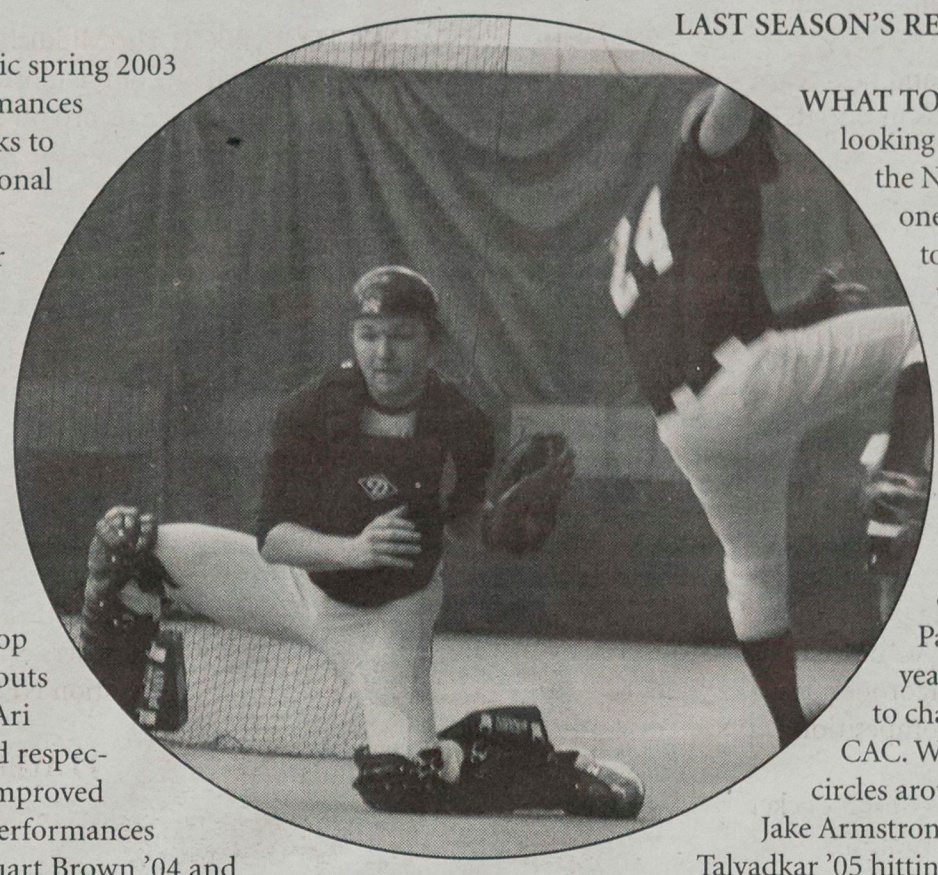
PLAYERS TO WATCH: Sarah Grenert, Elizabeth Renehan and Nuala O'Donohoe.

IMPORTANT GAMES: Salisbury (Mar. 23) and Gettysburg (Mar. 25)

PHOTOS BY VLAD LODOABA AND ALBERT BITICI | CONTRIBUTIONS FROM CHESLEY THURBER, DAVID FREEDMAN, TOM MCCANN, RYAN REESE AND SEAN BREEN.

MEN'S TENNIS

COACH: Dave Schwarz
CAPTAINS: Stuart Brown '04, Alex Meditz '05
LAST SEASON'S RECORD: 13-4



WHAT TO EXPECT: After an historic spring 2003 season and strong individual performances in the fall, the men's tennis team looks to build on its semifinal loss in the national championships last year. No Panther tennis team had ever reached that far in the program's history, and because of the tremendous depth of the 14-man roster, the team's rise to prominence looks to continue. The men finished the spring with an outstanding 13-4 record and were ranked fourth nationally, the same ranking they hold entering this season. The team features four athletes ranked among the nation's top 40 singles players. Sophomore standouts Brian Waldron, Nate Edmunds and Ari Beilin are ranked 10th, 15th and 33rd respectively. First-year George Mayer has improved significantly from his already solid performances and is currently 23rd. Co-captain Stuart Brown '04 and Waldron also cracked the top 20 in doubles at 14th.

PLAYERS TO WATCH: Brian Waldron, Nate Edmunds

IMPORTANT GAMES: spring break against UC Santa Cruz (#5 nationally) and Cal Lutheran (#7 nationally)

BASEBALL

COACH: Bob Smith
CAPTAINS: Chris Fraser '04, Jake Armstrong '04 and Jim Muhlfeld '04
LAST SEASON'S RECORD: 12-11-1

WHAT TO EXPECT: The men's baseball team is looking to the spring to continue its climb up the NESCAC ladder. While taking the season one game at a time, Middlebury will look to qualify for postseason play for the first time since 1999. The Panthers' style of play can be characterized by Coach Bob Smith's emphasis on fundamentals. His teams perennially demonstrate sound defensive skills and aggressive offensive strategies. After losing a strong senior class, the Panthers have brought forth a solid crop of players once again. There doesn't appear to be any drop off and the Panthers will look to improve upon last year's 12-11-1 mark. Middlebury will look to challenge the upper echelon of the NESCAC. With senior captain Chris Fraser pitching circles around opposing batters, senior captain Jake Armstrong burning up the base paths and Dev Talvadkar '05 hitting the ball consistently and powerfully, the Middlebury squad will surely create a memorable and exciting spring season.

PLAYERS TO WATCH: Chris Fraser, Dev Talvadkar and Jake Armstrong

IMPORTANT GAMES: Williams (Mar. 26-7) Amherst (April 2-3)

WOMEN'S TENNIS

COACH: Nate Simms
CAPTAINS: Jena Siegel '04, Sandy Spring '04
LAST SEASON'S RECORD: 5-4 Spring
6-1 Fall

WHAT TO EXPECT: Hoping to continue its recent success, the women's tennis team enters the spring ranked sixth in the nation. During the fall, the team advanced to the NCAA tournament for the first time in the program's history. The team's strong results came as they stormed through the fall season with victories over powerhouses such as Williams College, ranked third in the nation at the time. The team has boasted strong results despite not having any individual athlete ranked in the top 50 in singles or top 30 in doubles in Division III. A strong first-year class contributed to the team's winning ways in the fall, headed by Jackie Ross at the top singles position followed by Amy Roche and Claire Smyser at numbers two and four respectively. Captains Siegel and Spring provide veteran leadership at the two and three spots in doubles.

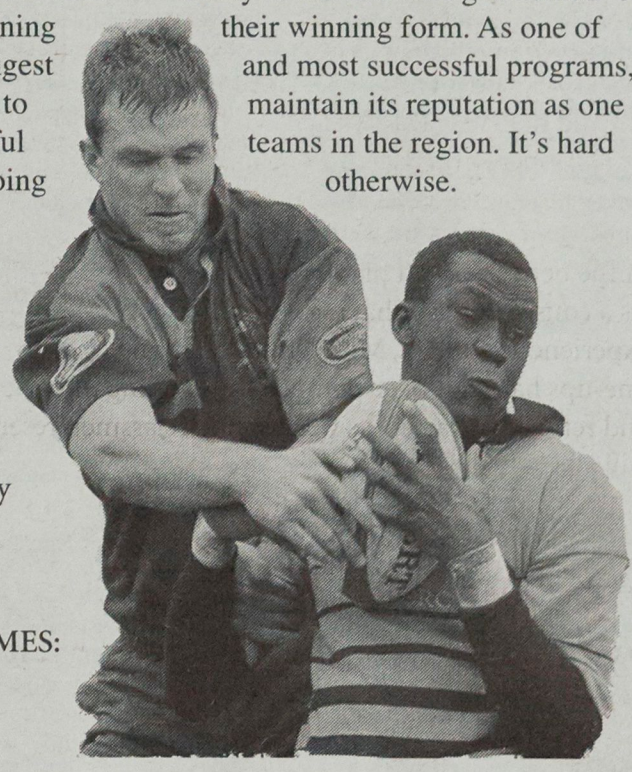
PLAYERS TO WATCH: Jena Siegel, Jackie Ross

IMPORTANT MATCHES:
March 14 Doubleheader against Hamilton and Brandeis;
Spring break trip to Hilton Head, S.C. and Wilson, N.C.

RUGBY

COACH: Ward Patterson
CAPTAINS: Ngetha Waithaka '04, David Wisner '04
Devin Green '04, Molly Dinsmore '04
LAST SEASON: Women lost in regional, Men 9-1

WHAT TO EXPECT: Middlebury has a fine tradition when it comes to rugby, a tradition they hope to maintain this spring. Juniors Kate Nerenberg and Johanna Riesel will continue to provide much of the impetus for the women's team, as they did in the fall, while stellar contributions from the underclassmen will once again be key to the team's success. The men's team had its fall campaign come to a shuddering halt after a surprising defeat at the hands of Coast Guard, a team it had beaten just a few weeks prior to their meeting in the regional championships. The men will still be feeling the effect of their 9-10 defeat when their spring season gets underway and will no doubt come out ready to make a strong statement of intent toward regaining their winning form. As one of Middlebury's strongest and most successful programs, the team will want to maintain its reputation as one of the most powerful teams in the region. It's hard to imagine them doing otherwise.



PLAYERS TO WATCH:
Ngetha Waithaka, David Wisner, Pascal Losambe, Devin Green, Molly Dinsmore

IMPORTANT GAMES:
4/15 Williams,
5/12 Bowdoin

ANGRYPETER

BY PETER YORDAN

So it's five o'clock and I'm the last person in an hour-long line to buy hockey tickets for this weekend's men's playoff game versus Wentworth, stuck behind a gaggle of Febs cooing about how great the hockey players are. I'm here because hockey is my favorite sport, and it is the final home game of my senior year. They're here because their FOO leader told them it's cool and all the other new Febs will give them evil looks if they don't go.

Still, I'm looking forward to the last hockey weekend of my Midd career. It may well be the last college sporting event I hit up this year, since I hate standing in the cold April rain for two hours to watch lax or softball. We're playing Wentworth, who we butchered pretty badly last time around. It will probably be more of the same this year. Anyway, it lets me write one final column about Middlebury's flagship sport to bring up one final thing that's been irking me about hockey games.

We can't cheer. Our cheers aren't clever, and they aren't well timed. Sure, we're great at humiliating bad opponents. In the NESCAC quarterfinals against Tufts I watched as we mercilessly taunted the senior goaltender of a four-win team after he'd given up six goals in his farewell game. Yet in a close game against Hamilton we allow ourselves to be browbeaten by a handful of Hamilton goons sitting in the student section. Their repeated cheers and taunts were met with long periods of embarrassing silence punctuated by lame scoreboard references and biting comebacks like "Well, we may suck, but our hockey team is really good." (Yes, I actually heard that).

This sounds monumentally lame, but as fans, we do serve as ambassadors for Middlebury. Wentworth's return to campus reminds me that sometimes our actions make me cringe. Let me throw out a couple rules. It is never acceptable to make fun of the academics of a school that is clearly not in the same tier as us. It's fine to disparage the academics of a sister NESCAC school, but it is awful to do the same to a Wentworth or a Plattsburgh, who clearly serve different educational needs than we do. It's also lame to callously taunt schools that clearly run a less competitive hockey program than we do. These teams come every year, and they are already scared to play Middlebury in our stadium full of people. When they are losing 5-0 they don't really need to hear how much they suck. When we are beating Norwich 6-2, you can let them hear it. When Williams comes to town, the sky is the limit.

Wentworth is a school that fights all year long to win their league, and the prize they win is to come here to play in front of a big angry crowd against a team they have little chance of beating. If we have an easy lead, let's see fewer cell phone pranks and more "We want Joe" cheers.

Katie Hawkins defies water's edge

Courtesy

By Alden Bird
Staff Writer

Hawkins has chosen to run rapids that would scare most people, and has raised local attention as the only woman ever to kayak many difficult rivers in the Green Mountains.

One thing you have to do before leaving Middlebury College is stop and peer into the Middlebury Gorge along Route 125. You will not be disappointed. Just after you pass through Ripton on your way back to Middlebury, the river drops away from the road and enters one of Vermont's most remote canyons. The walls drop 100 feet straight down to where the East Middlebury River rages in a storm of white below. The two-mile stretch of rapids in the gorge is considered one of the most difficult and demanding in New England. Few kayakers attempt the river. Only one woman has ever kayaked the gorge. She is Middlebury sophomore Katie Hawkins, one of Vermont's brightest kayaking stars.

For the unassuming Hawkins the Middlebury Gorge was just the latest in a long line of difficult descents that have local kayakers telling stories over post-paddling beers. One time, as Hawkins readied her boat above the Middlebury Gorge, a local kayaker stopped his car and confessed to her that in 20 years of kayaking he had never once summoned the courage to enter the gorge. Hawkins chatted, said goodbye, and then ran the entire Middlebury Gorge — whirlpools, waterfalls and all. "People talk it up so much. It wasn't really all they made it out to be," she says, but you will never hear Hawkins talk up a river.

Like the prototypical whitewater hero, Hawkins likes to keep her river battles to herself. The whitewater hero is a 5'6"-tall southern girl who paddles off the tops of dams and never seems to get too excited.

But on campus in the suite she shares with five other sophomore girls, Hawkins is bright and full of spark, an Environmental Studies major whose eyes light up at the thought of joining the local ambulance squad or of spending time with the close friends that she seems to make with ease. Once on the river, however, Hawkins checks her emotions and is uninterested in discussing her storied exploits. "I hate talking about this stuff!" she quips when asked about her proudest kayaking moment.

But within her there is a drive — the drive that wakes her at 6 a.m. on a cold fall day and brings her to the banks of a bizarre and complicated rapid deep in the woods of the Green Mountains — that takes her to the bottom of gorges with no way out — that flings her out into the middle of the mighty Saint Lawrence River in Montreal, half a mile from the security of either shore, a tiny boat in an ocean, surfing waves 12-feet high. The drive that disregards safety, disregards the norm. Disregards the old ways that will not do.

Simply put, Hawkins has time and time again made her own decisions, has chosen to run rapids that would scare most people and has raised local attention as the only woman ever to kayak many difficult rivers in the Green Mountains. She has accomplished all this with inspiring modesty.

October 2003: On a warm fall afternoon Hawkins and a friend pull up to the Big Branch River in Danby, VT. The Big Branch is considered *the* benchmark expert river. Once you have run the Big Branch, you have "made it" in kayaking. Its rapids are discussed nightly where kayakers gather, the dangers pointed out, the routes memorized ahead of time.

Yet Hawkins knows nothing of this river. She has never heard of it and has never been there. She has eagerly driven with her friend an hour or more from campus, and all she knows as she drifts in her boat above the first maze of boulders is that she can see the route from where she is now. Later, when she comes to the rapid's crux, she does not hesitate. She digs her paddle in carefully and follows the current.

She and her friend blitz down the river, paddling deftly. They descend in 30 minutes and arrive at the end in near darkness.

In the parking lot they encounter two incredulous young men from Massachusetts. These two kayakers just spent *four hours* on the same stretch of river, having stopped to examine and to endlessly debate the dangers of every single rapid. As it is, they still had trouble — one of the men lost his paddle in the rapids. The look on their faces when they see Hawkins is one of shock. They drove all the way up and battled this river all afternoon, and yet this dark-haired girl has flashed down it without stopping and does not seem the least bit excited or the least bit interested in recounting her run.

Long before she arrived in Vermont and turned heads, Katie Hawkins came from the South. She grew up in Memphis, Tenn. but spent her summers in North Carolina at Camp Green Cove, a girls' camp with a fearless outdoor program. It was here that Hawkins took her first strokes — in a large recreational canoe. Camp Green Cove stressed the basics of river technique, basics best learned in the most cumbersome river vehicle. Like the teenager who learns to drive behind the wheel of a Mack truck, a young and frustrated Hawkins learned her strokes well.

Remarkably Hawkins and her fellow campers negotiated many of the Southeast's most famous rivers in these large throwback canoes. Rivers like the Ocoee, site of the 1996 Olympic whitewater slalom, and Georgia's mighty Chattooga, where the 1972 movie "Deliverance" was filmed.

Soon Hawkins graduated to sleeker craft — the whitewater kayak. During the summers she and fellow campers traveled the Southeast for weeks at a time, running rivers by day and camping on shore at night. Year after year they grew closer and year after year they returned to their home base in North Carolina.

In the off-season, Hawkins returned to her high school in Delaware, St. Andrews—a boarding school. Unfortunately, this did not bode well for her whitewater side. "There's not much whitewater in Delaware, believe it or not," she says. Instead she found close friends and also found her athletic outlet in a game that fit her prep-school surroundings—squash. Though seemingly incongruous, this is a passion that she has continued in college as a member of the women's varsity squash team.

Her love of the outdoors endured. And when it came time to choose a college, Hawkins sought a new region, a place of new challenges and new friends. Kayaking was not explicitly a factor. "It was a last minute decision to go to Middlebury," she says. "I didn't realize about the boating, but it was a nice area."

While she misses the warm rivers of the south, Katie loves the cold and steep rivers of Vermont. Her favorite rivers are "steep creeks" —small, constricted rivers like the East Middlebury that drop over waterfalls and through fields of boulders. "They're more fast-paced, bigger drops, more technical," says Hawkins. When it comes to a specific favorite river, she is more evasive. "Whatever river I'm on," she shrugs.

On the water, even among her many male companions, Hawkins is known for her toughness. "You're going to get 'worked' from time to time," she says. Once, while running a waterfall under a full moon, Hawkins flipped upside down in a "hole" — a place where the river curls back on itself violently. After being tossed in the "spin cycle" several times, Hawkins regained her balance and rolled herself back upright and stroked to safety. She paddled over to her companions, shaking her head, silently disgusted with herself. As several of the others dared each other to do another run, Hawkins went back up and ran the waterfall again — perfectly.

Regarding her male kayaking companions, Hawkins says, "They're usually pretty encouraging." She never feels as though her decisions are being examined in a different light because she is a woman. "If that was what they thought, I wouldn't really care anyway," she says. On the other hand, her non-kayaking friends share a different view of her river passion. "They think it's funny," she says. "They think my (kayaking) stuff smells bad."

Indoor season a success

By Jack Donaldson
Staff Writer

This past weekend a handful of competitors from the Middlebury College indoor track team traveled north to Bowdoin College for the ECAC Championships. Although some team members stayed on campus, it was a successful weekend for the Panthers that made the trip.

Leading the women's leg of the indoor track squad, senior Maryanne Porter, finished fourth in the 400-meter race, with a time of 59.50. Her time was enough to garner All-ECAC honors. Fellow track star Megan Gambino '06 commented, "We had some great performances this week. The ECAC Championship was a very good ending to the season for us." Considering the talent at the competition, the fourth place finish was met with applause from the Middlebury crowd.

The men's team had several success stories, both in individual meets and in relays. Individually, junior speedster Nick Digani tied his own school record in the 1,000-meters, with a time of 2:31.66, earning a second place finish in the event. Digani also earned all-conference honors for his solo performance.

Two Panther men's relay teams posted strong results as well. In the 4 x 800, a race in which Middlebury has done well all season, the group of Digani, junior Jon Erwin, sophomore Matt Horesta, and first-year runner Connor O'Neil, placed eighth overall. However, their time beat the previous school record by 19 seconds, with a time of 7:59.89. The group also earned all-ECAC honors. This performance fit in comfortably with the season the relay team has enjoyed. The foursome has seen school records matched and broken for months. The prolific 4 x 200 squad has had similar success. This team includes senior Tony Garofano, junior Liam Aiello, sophomore speed demon Kevin Bright and blue chip first-year Alex Wellman. Up at Bowdoin, they finished with a time of 1:33.68, giving them a fourth place finish, and earning them all-ECAC honors as well. The time was an eightieth of a second shy of breaking the school record.

Following last week's performance by the entire Middlebury team, where many records were reset, this weekend was another accomplishment, an example of a team never settling for its previous bests.

The ECAC championships also showed athletes eager to begin a new season, squeezing everything out of the winter months in anticipation of a Spring Break trip to California. The spring season, which by all accounts is more exciting and spectator friendly, will hopefully feature more high-caliber performances like the ones we have become accustomed to this winter.

"[This weekend's] competition is mostly for individual performance. There's not much of a team aspect going on," explained sophomore Kristoph Becker, who did not attend the meet. "It's mostly a nice warm-up for the NCAA championships next weekend." Becker was one of many members of the team that stayed home, on campus, training for either the NCAA's or the spring season, which is just around the corner for many indoor track athletes.

Senior skaters lead the way

Panthers bring total package in victories

Continued from page 28

Pepsi Center during playoff time. With every goal, the stands erupted in anticipation of NESCAC gold. Goal after goal after goal, the Panther skaters celebrated as if every tally was the most important goal of their careers. Senior captain John Dawson pulled out the classic fist pump as well as simply skating into the boards to greet the fans. Cooper leapt at least two feet off the ice after one goal while utilizing the "milestone" celebration technique. They knew. The Panther Nation knew, and the Bantams slowly learned that Sunday was not to be their day.

After a solid first period of play that saw both teams skating at a furious pace and very physical play, neither team had anything to show. The Bantams, being a relatively small team in stature, made up for this mismatch by finishing checks, applying a constant forecheck and sacrificing their bodies in order to deflect many a Middlebury shot. The goaltending was superb during the tight first 20 minutes. The Trinity goalie, Doug Kiselius, made a handful of magnificent stops, proving that he was worthy of his nomination to the all-NESCAC first team. Scheuer was not intimidated however, and did not disappoint, calmly stopping Trinity's best scoring opportunity, a point blank Ryan Stevens breakaway midway through the period.

No one has any idea what was said, what was done or what went on in the Panther locker room in between periods. Whatever it was, it worked.

After an early Trinity one-timer by Ryan Stevens, the ensuing 10 minutes were completely dominated by the Panther attack. This second stanza bonanza saw five Middlebury goals scored within a stretch of nine minutes and 24 seconds. Phinney punched home the equalizer from the high slot to start off the goal frenzy. Only seven seconds later, Shady Young '06 broke free from the face-off before beating Kiselius again. Cooper then returned to his famous breakaway move as he snuck the puck through Kiselius's five hole. Dawson got in on the action in a big way as he proceeded to tack on two goals of his own. The final period saw Trinity's Ryan Stevens knock another one in for the Bantams before Adam Foote '04 concluded the scoring with a tricky little finish of his own.

"The team is as confident as ever and we are truly coming together at the best time of the season," said Scheuer. There is no doubt that the cohesiveness of this squad has been shining through in these past weeks as the Panthers have mauled every team they have faced. As the big dance approaches, Scheuer noticed that, "There is a lot of enthusiasm in the locker room and we are pretty excited for the next two weeks." The Panthers are slated to face Wentworth Institute of Technology in quarterfinal action of the NCAA tournament. "We feel good about our chances against Wentworth and the odds are in our favor," Scheuer commented.

It may have been noticed that many of the Panther skaters suddenly have hair of a much lighter color. To explain this, Scheuer commented, "Well, everyone is familiar with the playoff beard but, we haven't really advanced that far into the playoffs in order to make that truly effective, so we thought we'd try something new. A few of us bleached our whole head while others went for some subtle highlights. You know, a little team bonding."

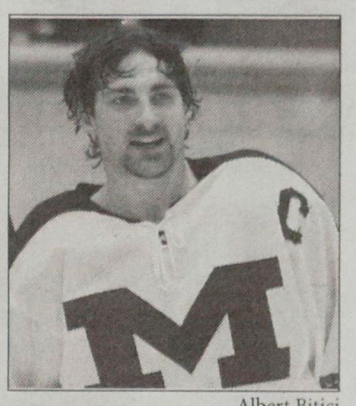
Albert Bitici

After winning its fourth NESCAC crown in five years, Middlebury turns its attention to hosting its first round NCAA match-up against Wentworth.

SPORTSBRIEFS

BY DAVID FREEDMAN, SPORTS EDITOR

Dawson earns NESCAC honor



Albert Bitici

Middlebury ice hockey's senior captain John Dawson earned NESCAC player of the week honors for his two goals and outstanding play in the Panthers 6-2 rout of Trinity College Sunday afternoon. Dawson's two goals in the NESCAC Championship came on power plays less than a minute apart to put the game out of reach at 5-1. His scoring output against the Bantams added to Dawson's team-leading seven goals on man-up opportunities. After missing multiple games this season due to injury, the senior out of New Canaan, Conn., has become the team's second leading goal scorer with 14 on the year and fifth on the team in points with 26. The NESCAC award was Dawson's first since his rookie campaign in 2000-2001 when he earned the same award for catapulting Middlebury over Amherst College with an overtime goal in the league finals.

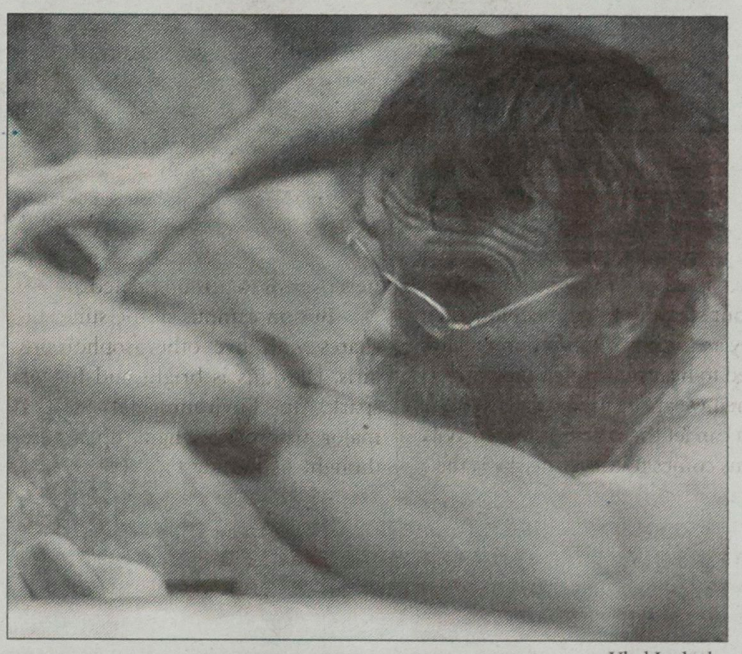
All-NESCAC for 8 swimmers

Eight members of Middlebury's men's swimming and diving team earned all-NESCAC recognition after placing in the top three at the conference championships on February 27-29. The men had one individual NESCAC champion in first-year Rob Collier, who won the 200-backstroke. The Panthers managed to break five varsity records on the day, including two top Varsity times from Rob Hillas '06 in the 1,000-free and the 1,650-free. The 400-medley relay team of Jason Korsmeyer '05, Tim Lux '07, Matt Clark '05 and Collier earned all-NESCAC honors with its varsity record time of 3:32.6 and second place finish. Collier qualified for three events with NCAA "A" (automatic) cuts in three events — the 200-IM, the 400-IM and the 200-back. Senior Karl Whittington was also earned honors with his performance on the 800-free relay team, and set a varsity record in the 500-free as well. David Hawkins '05 helped the 200-medley relay team, along with Korsmeyer, Lux and Clark, finish third on the day as well as finishing third in the 100-butterfly. Collier, Hillas and Lux, as well as diver Tris Arscott '06, who already qualified for nationals, will participate in the NCAA Championship meet March 18 and 19.

Midd grad to be triathlete

Lindsay Simpson '00, a three year varsity track and field athlete, just recently decided she wanted to make her exercise a little more exciting by adding miles of swimming and hours of biking to her workout regimen. The Middlebury alum has been training for triathlons for some time and hopes to represent the United States at the amateur triathlon World Championships in Portugal this coming May. "It was a dream come true to be invited," Simpson said of the recent offer to participate in the event. After months and months of hard work the only bump in the road the former Panther faces is raising the necessary $1600 dollars it will cost to attend the race. Simpson needs to appropriate the money by April 1 or her goal of representing her country abroad will not be fulfilled. She is currently residing in Waterbury, Maine, and working as a seventh grade science teacher. Offers for donations can reach Simpson at her e-mail address: simpsonlindsay@yahoo.com

CLIMBING HIGH



Vlad Lodoaba

Eric Engberg, father of William's competitor Nika Engberg, takes his own turn on the wall at Middlebury's annual "In a Blender" intercollegiate climbing competition. Middlebury played host to over 30 climbers competing at all levels on Saturday.

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INDOOR TRACK | STARS CONTINUE TO SHINE PREPPING FOR OUTDOORS | 26

GAMES TO WATCH

MEN'S HOCKEY VS. WENTWORTH
MAR. 13 | 7 P.M. | KENYON

WOMEN'S HOCKEY VS. ELMIRA
MAR. 12 | 7 P.M. | KENYON

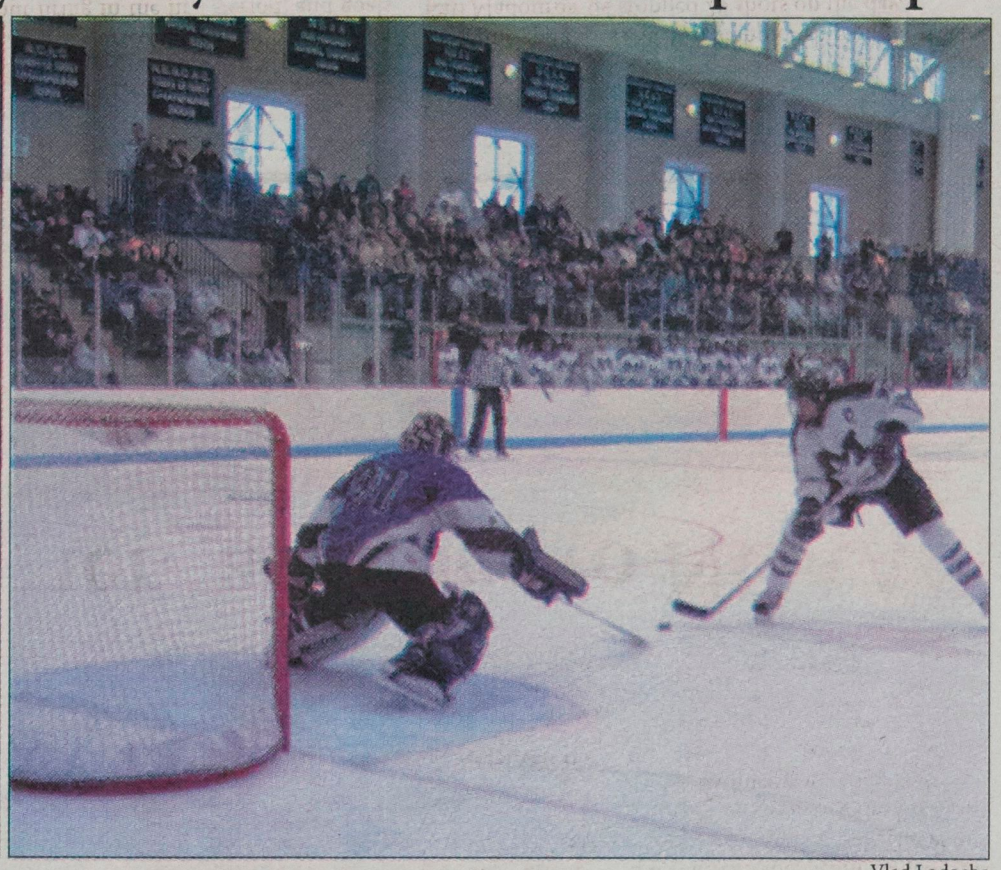
campus sports

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2004

Second stanza bonanzas for men's hockey

Panthers maul Hamilton and Trinity on way to NESCAC Championship

Albert Bitici



Vlad Lodoaba

The Middlebury men's hockey team avenged the NESCAC title it lost to Trinity last year with a five-goal outburst over a 10 minute span in Sunday's championship game (left). A win over Hamilton College on Saturday (right) carved the Panthers' way to the NESCAC final.

By Ryan Reese
Assistant Sports Editor

The Bantams of Trinity learned a lot about the Middlebury men's hockey team this past Sunday. The Panthers don't forgive and forget, they don't let bygones be bygones, and, most importantly, that payback's a … well, you know. After advancing to Sunday's final by way of a 4-2 victory over Colby, Trinity ran into the tenacious Panther buzz saw. Middlebury shredded the Bantams 6-2 on its way to avenging a loss in last year's NESCAC title match to the same Trinity squad. Sunday marked the Panthers' fourth championship victory in five years as well as a ticket to their 10th consecutive NCAA tournament appearance.

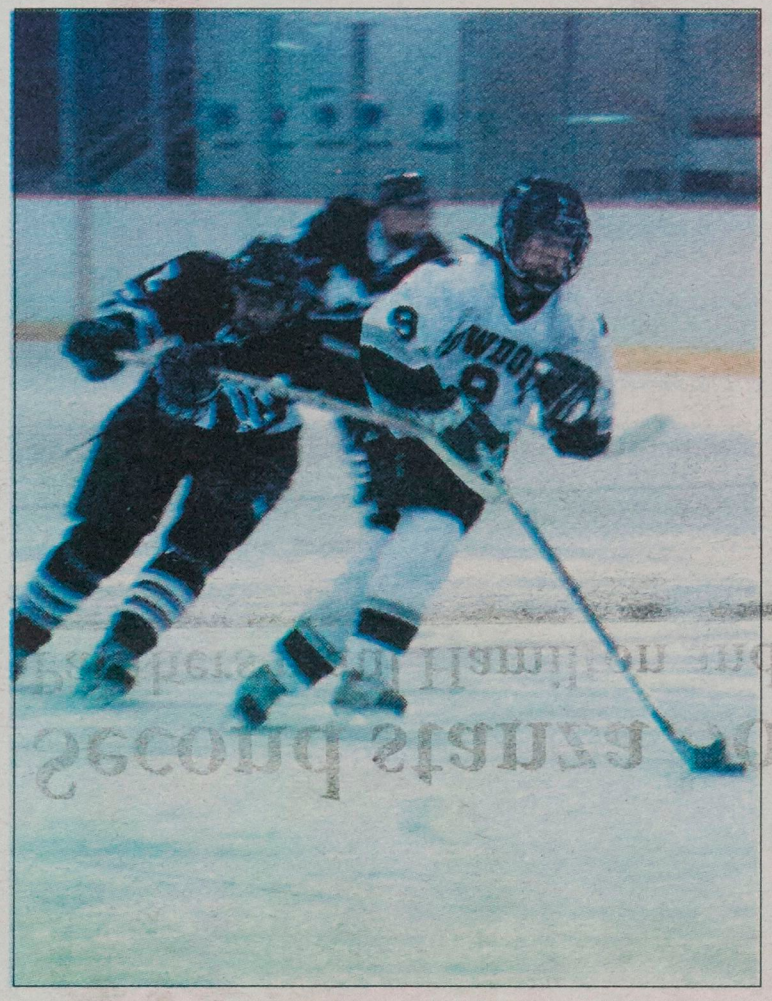
This weekend's action at Kenyon began with a one o'clock matinee that pitted Hamilton against Middlebury. The game was characterized by solid goaltending and was dominated by the stalwart Middlebury defense. The senior strike force of Andrew Helming and Kevin Cooper teamed up for the afternoon's first tally. A description of the amazing net play of Middlebury's Marc Scheuer '04 and Hamilton's Robbie MacNeil could sum up the remainder of the first period. Acrobatic save after sprawling denial totaled a 1-0 Panther advantage going into the first intermission.

Middlebury's senior leadership proved invaluable once again during the second period. Scheuer was impenetrable throughout, while Cooper and Brian Phinney '05 assisted on a Helming tip-in to add to the Panther lead. This two-goal advantage quieted the Hamilton faithful.

During third period play, Cooper broke free and proceeded to deke MacNeil into submission before smoothly sliding the puck home through the five-hole. The Hamilton cheers changed from raucous revelry to a dull roar after the gravity of Cooper's exclamation point was realized. The Continentals' Casey Deak did manage to deny Scheuer a goose egg. However, the end result was the same — a 3-1 Panther triumph, and the end of Hamilton's season.

Up next were the Trinity Bantams, the Panthers' perennial postseason rival who stole the NESCAC title from Middlebury last year with a tough 4-2 upset victory. The Panthers were not ready to lose again, and lose they would not. "It felt good to beat Trinity and bring the title back home," commented victorious net minder, Scheuer about Sunday's thumping of the Bantams. These sentiments were shared by the raucus Panther fanbase as Kenyon Arena seemed more like the NHL's

See Senior, page 27



Alex du Houx / *The Bowdoin Orient*

Bowdoin took the lastest chapter in the bitter fued between the Panthers and the Polar Bears, but Middlebury garnered an at large bid to NCAAs.

Panthers advance to NCAAs

Women's hockey falls in NESCAC title bid

By Mike Kennedy
Staff Writer

The Middlebury women's hockey team's bid for a second straight NESCAC title fell short this past weekend, as the Panthers lost to Bowdoin College 4-1 in the championship game held in Brunswick, Maine on Sunday, March 7. Middlebury did, however, receive an at-large bid into the NCAA tournament and will host Elmira this Friday in a quarterfinal match-up. The Panthers earned a spot in the tournament based upon their 21-4 overall record and high ranking in national polls.

To get to the NESCAC finals, Middlebury handily defeated Williams the previous Saturday for the third time this season, outscoring the Ephs 5-1. The Panthers came out firing in the first period, and goals by all-NESCAC selection Lorna Gifis '05 and first-year Abby Kurtz-Phelan put the Panthers up by two at the intermission.

The second period was a different story, as Williams controlled most of the action, firing 19 shots on another Panther from the all-NESCAC squad, goaltender Kate Kogut '06. Kogut kept all but one out of the net, and a late goal from Shannon Sylvester '07 gave Middlebury a 3-1 lead heading into the third period.

In the third, Gifis added two more goals to complete her hat trick, while Kogut continued to stymie the Ephs, finishing the game with 38 saves.

Captain Jean Butler '04 commented on the game, saying, "It wasn't pretty at times, but we did what we needed to do to get to the finals. Kogut was outstanding for us in goal, and we got some timely goals that might have deflated them a little bit."

Middlebury and Bowdoin faced off for the second consecutive year in the NESCAC championship — as the Panthers earned last year's title with a 4-0 victory. The two teams split the regular season series and shared the NESCAC regular season title.

On this day, Bowdoin seemed to have the edge, outskating and outworking the Panthers throughout much of the game on their way to a 4-1 win. Sophomore Liz Yale-Loehr's redirection goal brought the Panthers to within one early in the third period, but that was as close as they would get. Two late Polar Bear goals put the game and the NESCAC championship out of reach. Kati Madouros '04 stopped 28 shots on the day.

"Bowdoin is a really good team, and they deserved to win the game on that day. They beat us in all the little battles around the rink, and that gave them the advantage," said Butler.

The Panthers will have to shrug off Sunday's loss and prepare for the Elmira game on Friday night at Kenyon Arena. The Soaring Eagles are the defending NCAA champions and are responsible for one of Middlebury's four losses this season. They defeated the Panthers 2-1 in January. "We have to put the NESCACs behind us and focus all of our energy on Elmira. This is a great opportunity for us to compete in the NCAAs, and we'll be ready for it," commented Butler. She and the rest of the Panthers seem well aware of the challenge that lies ahead next weekend.